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IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

• Shimon Peres plays down Arafat's visit, describes behind-the-scenes contacts with Syria, talks of boosting ties with Jordan, and candidly reflects on his unpopularity as a lightning rod, in an interview with **David Makovsky**. Section B.

• Whose child? Yours, mine, hers! Surrogate mothers redefine parenthood. **Carl Schrag** joins twins who meet their surrogate mother for the first time. Magazine.

• Yes, it happened: The Nazis freed Jews and sent them straight to Palestine. In exchange for an equal number of German Templers, they released 222 Dutch Jews. **Suzanne Glass** tells the incredible, unknown story of Jews allowed to leave Bergen-Belsen alive 50 years ago. Section B.

• Publication of a Qumran document after years of controversy may prove a landmark in tracing the development of Halacha. **Abraham Rabinovich** reports. Magazine.

Police manhandle a protester last night during large-scale demonstrations against Yasser Arafat's visit to Gaza. (Stein/Harari)

Masses to welcome Arafat in historic Gaza Strip visit

JON IMMANUEL

PLO leader Yasser Arafat is scheduled to cross the Rafiah checkpoint into Gaza at 2:30 p.m. today, where a military march will herald his arrival with a reception "befitting a president."

Hundreds of thousands are expected to crowd the 30-kilometer route to Gaza City, in what is seen as a pivotal moment in Palestinian history that many thought would never happen.

His arrival will effectively mark Arafat's transition from PLO chairman to chairman of the Palestinian Authority.

Arafat will formally remain leader of the PLO, although the 10 Damascus-based opposition groups, including dissident PLO factions and Hamas, have disavowed his leadership because of the peace accord with Israel. But by their own admission, their opposition is ineffective.

One hundred Palestinian Police had deployed along Arafat's entry route late last night. Arafat will be met by a security committee of senior police, an honor guard, members of the Palestinian Authority and notables, who will not, it seems, include Hamas officials, despite efforts to show that Arafat comes as "president" of all the Palestinians.

Security chief Maj. Gen. Abd-el-Razek Majaydeh told a news conference that a motorcade will take Arafat and about 100 staffers, reportedly including some members of the Palestine National Council, through Khan Yunis and Deir el-Balah, passing the exposed Israeli settlement of Kfar Darom. He will arrive in Gaza via Talateen Street, and continue to the former Israeli military governor's building.

Last night workers were erecting a platform from where Arafat will deliver his first major speech in Gaza. Tens of thousands of supporters are expected to pack the open area in front of the governor's building.

Since the surprise announcement Wednesday of his imminent arrival, life in Gaza has continued at its usual pace. Gaza yesterday was less excited by Arafat's arrival than was Jerusalem, where anti-Arafat demonstrations erupted.

In Gaza, garbage remained largely uncollected in the streets, and there was no new wall graffiti welcoming Arafat.

The prevailing feeling was one of "we'll believe it when we see it." But when they do see Arafat, the explosion of emotion is expected to be deafening. Criticism is likely to set in only when Arafat leaves, if it turns out that his visit was a gesture rather than a permanent homecoming.

Most people were happy about Arafat's planned arrival, but often with reservations. Adel Gazel, an engineer, described Arafat as "my father. I only view with sorrow the fact that he is coming for three days."

Some tried to show it was Arafat the Palestinian, not Arafat the leader, they welcomed. "Not everyone supports the peace process, but no one can deny the happiness of seeing a Palestinian return to his land, and Arafat is, at last, a Palestinian," said legal aid worker Khaled Safi, from the Bureij refugee camp.

Dr. Haidar Abdel-Shafi, Gaza's most important critic of Arafat's dictatorial style, did not rule out sitting on the Palestinian Authority, which Arafat is expected to chair for the first time during his visit. "If decisions are taken by consent," he said, "I certainly don't want to get into conflict with Arafat." Abdel-Shafi said he would join the receptions welcoming Arafat home.

Last minute attempts to include Hamas notables in the celebrations are expected, although Hamas officials have been critical of his arrival at this time.

"We had hoped Arafat would arrive when there was no Israeli soldier or settler," Ibrahim Yazuri, a pharmacist, told the *An-Nahar* daily.

Arafat is expected to stay at the 24-room Palestine Hotel, though this, like many aspects of his itinerary, is not certain. "No one has been evicted," said the desk manager, complaining about media reports to the contrary.

Arafat is not expected to take up residence on this visit in the former Egyptian governor's mansion near Ansar 2, the former Israeli prison camp, a guard at the gate said.

Two soldiers wounded in drive-by attack

TWO IDF soldiers were wounded, one moderately and one lightly, by gunmen who opened fire from a passing car near Khan Yunis.

The soldiers were patrolling the Kissufim-Khan Yunis road yesterday evening when they were attacked at the northern entrance to Khan Yunis. The two were immediately evacuated to a hospital.

IDF forces pursued the assailants.

Army sources note this is the first gun attack in the Gaza Strip in nearly two months.

An anonymous caller told news agencies that Hamas claims responsibility for the attack. "The Izzadin Kassam brigades take responsibility for the incident that led to the killing of three Israeli soldiers at exactly 6.30 p.m. near the road to the Karara village. This is a salute to Abu Ammar," the caller said.

Alon Pinkas

Court upholds Deri indictment

EVELYN GORDON

THE Jerusalem District Court yesterday refused to cancel the indictment against former Interior Minister Aryeh Deri (Shas), saying that despite the large amount of material resulting from the investigation, he had been given enough time to prepare a suitable defense.

Deri is being charged with bribe-taking, fraud, violating the public's trust and falsifying corporate documents.

Deri's attorney, Dan Avi-Yitzhak, had asked the court to cancel the indictment because by law, a person cannot be put on trial if he has not had a chance to examine the material relating to his case. In Deri's case, the material from the investigation included 115,000 pages and 4,500 cassettes, which would take seven years just to read and listen to, he said.

Thus, neither Deri nor his lawyer would be able to examine the material in any reasonable amount of time, and it would be unreasonable to delay the trial for seven years, Avi-Yitzhak argued.

"We haven't closed our eyes to the unusual amount of material or to the difficulties with which it presents the defendants," responded Judges Ya'acov Zemah, Miriam Naor and Moussia Arad in their decision. "[However], more than a year will have passed between when [Deri] began receiving the material and when [the court will start] hearing the evidence... We believe that this period of time, if used appropriately, enables a proper defense."

"[Furthermore], justice has many facets, and one important facet is that the truth be clarified regarding the acts listed in the indictment," they continued. "Not only the defendant has the right to a defense based on justice.' So does society, whose benefit demands that the accused stand trial and have his guilt or innocence

(Continued on Page 11)

Demonstrations sweep the country on eve of visit

HERB KEINON

THOUSANDS of people took part in anti-Arafat demonstrations last night from Kiryat Shmona to Dimona, providing a foretaste of what is expected to be a wild weekend of protest against the PLO chairman's visit.

Hundreds of demonstrators stood at the western entrance to Jerusalem for hours last night, alternately blocking and then retreating from the main artery into the city.

The police arrested 14 people, among them Aharon Domb, spokesman for the council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and Yehuda Etzion, a former member of the Jewish underground and head of Hai Vekayam, a right-wing organization that calls on reserve soldiers to refuse to serve. One demonstrator was injured and taken to the hospital.

Other cities where demonstrations and the blocking of interchanges were reported last night include Ra'anana, Bnei Brak, Rehovot and Safed.

In Jerusalem, waves of demonstrators waded into the streets, laid down and were carried away by policemen after the demonstration was declared illegal by police. They were replaced a short time later by other people who walked into the streets and blocked traffic. Some protesters were removed a number of times.

Those dragged away offered only passive resistance, and police pushed the demonstrators to side streets. The demonstrators, however, threw rocks at police and one border policeman was slightly injured.

Jerusalem Police Spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said a truck full of tires, which he said the demonstrators planned to burn in the street, was confiscated. In addition, nails which were to be used to puncture tires were found.

When the demonstrators succeeded in blocking the road near Jerusalem's entrance that leads to Ramot, police brought in water cannons and shot bursts of water at the demonstrators, successfully clearing the intersection.

Numerous scuffles broke out between police and demonstrators. Before midnight, police declared the protest illegal, and called out on loudspeakers for the protesters to disperse.

When they refused, police forcibly broke up the demonstration.

Har Nof Rabbi Shalom Gold, after being pushed back onto the sidewalk by police, said, "I am fighting for Jerusalem. They [the police] are doing their job, I am doing mine. My entire being is revolted by the idea that the government is bringing into the country the killer of men, women and children."

Rabbi Benny Elon, dean of Yeshivat Beit Orot in eastern Jerusalem, who was doused by the water cannons, said, "I cannot follow the laws of the country anymore; this is an illegal government."

Rabbi Nachum Rabinovitch, dean of Ma'ale Adumim's hesder yeshiva, was also pushed a number of times onto the sidewalk by police.

The demonstrators marched to the entrance of the city from the tent city they have set up opposite the Prime Minister's Office. As they set off for their demonstration, two busloads of police were

(Continued on Page 11)

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SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	7:11	8:32
Tel Aviv	7:29	8:34
Haifa	7:23	8:35
Beersheba	7:26	8:24
Eilat	7:22	8:27

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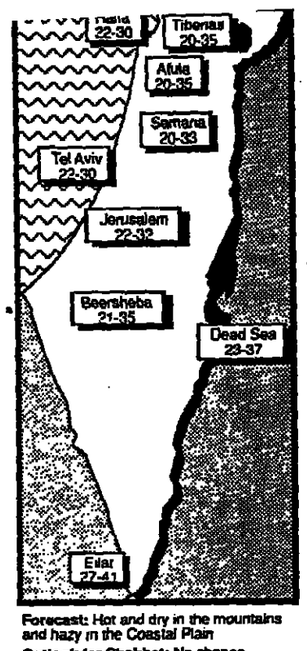

Forecast: Hot and dry in the mountains and hazy in the Coastal Plain
Outlook for Shabbat: No change

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	13	55	26	79	clear
Beijing	15	59	24	75	clear
Buenos Aires	10	50	16	61	rain
Cairo	20	68	34	93	clear
Chicago	19	66	28	82	cloudy
Copenhagen	12	53	23	74	clear
Frankfurt	17	63	30	86	clear
Geneva	19	66	27	80	cloudy
Helsinki	12	53	23	73	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	82	33	91	clear
Jo'burg	03	37	07	45	clear
Lisbon	17	63	30	86	clear
London	14	57	23	73	clear
Los Angeles	21	69	31	87	clear
Madrid	22	72	39	102	clear
Montreal	16	60	26	78	cloudy
Moscow	13	55	16	61	clear
New York	20	68	28	83	pclouds
Paris	12	54	25	77	clear
Rome	17	63	26	77	clear
Stockholm	12	54	25	77	clear
Sydney	09	48	15	59	rain

Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, ticket number 470073 was good for NIS 1 million, while the holder of ticket number 310658 won the Honda automobile. Those holding tickets numbered 366056, 014350, 759908, 077343, 058625, 806055, 561766, 601512, 065490, 487036, 146993, 470437, 086424, 561228, 290650, 162520, 600240, 553135, 864456, 263590, 751726, 372020, 049727, 653898, 303397, and 860504 all won NIS 5,000. Those holding tickets ending in 83390, 18579, 89735, 56763, 65051, 18348, 96789, 97051, 26759, 22988, 58549, 63119, 02513, 18956, 28607, 76762, 84730, 59414, and 29959 all won NIS 1,000, while tickets ending in 457, 304, 103 and 040 were good for NIS 100, in 73, 55, 59, and 01 for NIS 20, in 33, 67, 82, 05, 24, 09, and 40 NIS 10 and in 2, NIS 7.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, ace of hearts, eight of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Rabin: Opposition wants to topple gov't through violence

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin lashed out yesterday in an unprecedented attack on the opposition, accusing it of seeking "to topple the government through violence in the streets this weekend. There is no telling where all this will lead."

The Likud reacted by accusing Rabin of "demagoguery, shameless incitement and anti-democratic tendencies when he strives to deny his opponents their legitimate right to demonstrate and exercise free speech."

Addressing the weekly session of the Labor Party political bureau, Rabin charged that "this weekend the Right will make a supreme effort to inflame passions, disturb the peace and incite to riot. On Sunday, the Right plans to try to violently take over the government offices," he claimed in angry tones, which surprised even some of his listeners.

"We find ourselves under a tremendous attack from the Right," Rabin declared. "I expect that this weekend we shall witness the epitome of the extreme Right's and the entire Right's riots, and who knows where this will lead. They had been collecting vast funds, some even from overseas, and all with the hope of bringing down this government by causing violence in the streets," Rabin asserted. "I, for one minute, do not imagine that we shall not use all the might at our disposal to defend law and order."

SARAH HONIG

As he sees it, "The Right had to clutch onto Arafat's visit and make a great crisis out of it, because they can no longer dance over spilled blood – not enough blood was spilled for that in June. All that happened was that just one man was wounded and another killed by a resettled collaborator. After all, the opposition was demanding so vociferously that we take care of these collaborators. The Likud absolutely cannot stomach the fact that there is such a decline in terror," Rabin said.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres agreed, saying that "the fight with the Right is not over policy but for democracy, which the Right seeks to crush."

All this elicited a sharp reaction from opposition parties.

Likud Spokesman Zvi Hauser issued an official communique which argued that "Rabin is losing control because he realizes full well that the majority of the public objects to the grand welcome for Arafat. His onslaught is baseless since he knows the opposition parties stressed repeatedly that they will resort only to legitimate nonviolent protest. Maligning the opposition has become Rabin's habitual method and this is the undemocratic phenomenon which ought to really worry Israel's citizens."

The Likud statement notes that "Rabin pounces on whoever criticizes him – be it the High Court, the state comptroller or the legitimate opposition. Disagreeing with him is illegitimate. The prime minister must remember that despite his anti-democratic inclinations, Israel was, and remains, a democracy which guarantees all freedom of speech and assembly."

Tsomet warned Rabin against "unleashing the police against peaceful demonstrators. We have cause for concern in view of the fact that the prime minister keeps practicing malicious slander in an attempt to justify violence against anyone who dares disagree with him, because criticism of Rabin is in his eyes tantamount to insurgency and rebellion. There is something very wrong with his fundamental grasp of democracy, and this is all the more worrisome when contrasted with the care opposition leaders took to emphasize that all demonstrations will be conducted strictly within the bounds of what the law allows."

National Religious Party MK Shaul Yahalom took Rabin to task for suggesting that the NRP used funds allocated to Hapoel Hamizrahi through the Histadrut to finance the demonstrations.

"We are proud to demonstrate against Rabin's policy and his attempt to smear us will not deter us," Yahalom said. "What he says about Hapoel Hamizrahi is pitiful and a blatant lie and he very well knows it."

Hefetz: Police may close capital to Jews over weekend

BILL HUTMAN

THE police may for the first time ever stop citizens from entering Jerusalem this weekend if the massive anti-Arafat demonstrations expected there get out of hand, senior police officials said yesterday.

The move is among the unprecedented steps being considered by security forces to keep the peace during the visit. Police expect as many as 250,000 demonstrators in Jerusalem alone.

Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz told *The Jerusalem Post* that Israelis would be not allowed in Jerusalem if the demonstrations turned violent and their lives were endangered.

"We have the right to close the city (to Israelis) for security reasons," Hefetz said, confirming reports from security sources that such a move was being considered. The police spokesman later asked to clarify Hefetz's statement, saying a total closure of the city was unlikely. Certain areas, such as the Old City, might be closed if demonstrations there became unruly, the spokesman said.

He noted that police had never closed the city to Israelis, and that closures were normally implemented against Palestinian residents of the administered territories. This weekend, such a closure of Jerusalem to Palestinians is likely, as security forces try to reduce the friction between them and Israeli demonstrators.

Police brass spoke to right-wing leaders yesterday in an effort to ensure the demonstrations planned for Jerusalem and elsewhere over the weekend stay under control.

Senior police officers met in Jerusalem to finalize "Operation: Scorching Desert," the code name for the security forces' plan to keep the peace during Arafat's visit.

The officers confirmed various unprecedented measures were being considered, in addition to the closure.

Hefetz told reporters that while no wide-scale arrests of right-wing extremists was planned, individuals police know plan to act violently are likely to be detained. "I call on demonstration organizers to restrain the extremists within their ranks, so that the situation does not deteriorate during the visit," Hefetz said.

He also called on the demonstration organizers to coordinate their activity with the police, as is required by law. As of yesterday evening, no organization had done so, police said.

The demonstrations are to be allowed to go ahead, even without permits. But police would respond harshly if protesters "start destroying property or injuring police officers," Hefetz warned.

The largest demonstrations in Jerusalem were expected Saturday night at Zion Square and Sunday morning at the Prime Minister's Office, during the cabinet meeting.

But police were also concerned about ensuring that Friday's traditionally large noon Moslem prayers on the Temple Mount passes peacefully.

Another "sensitive spot" police will be keeping a close watch on is Orient House, where anti-Arafat protesters are also likely to concentrate.

More police officers have been brought into Jerusalem this weekend than for any single police operation ever, according to Jerusalem Police Chief Arye Amit.

Many top-ranking officers from other districts were brought to Jerusalem to ensure that commanders were on the scene at the expected trouble spots.

If, as expected, 250,000 persons participate in Jerusalem demonstrations, major traffic jams are also anticipated.

"I have no doubt that if a quarter million people come here to demonstrate and participate in all kinds of gimmicks that residents of city will suffer," Amit said.

"But the closing of a road here or there is something we will have to suffer, in order to allow people the right to demonstrate," he added.

Tibi: Bakshi-Doron convinced Arafat to switch visit from Shabbat to today

PLO CHAIRMAN Yasser Arafat's decision to come to Gaza this afternoon, rather than tomorrow, was in response to an appeal by Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron that Arafat not come on Shabbat, Arafat aide Ahmed Tibi said yesterday.

"In consideration of the rabbi [Bakshi-Doron] and the sensitivities of the observant Jews, and in light of the numerous requests that I received from numerous rabbis and religious leaders, the chairman told me an hour ago that he would come earlier and arrive Friday afternoon in the Gaza Strip," Tibi said on Israel Radio.

HERB KEINON and DAVID MAKOVSKY

An aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last night that there was another factor in Arafat's decision: Egypt was scheduled to host the head of Algeria tomorrow, and Cairo therefore wanted the visit moved up so President Hosni Mubarak could welcome Arafat before the PLO leader headed to Gaza. This was conveyed by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa to his Israeli counterpart, Shimon Peres yesterday.

"Having Arafat come earlier was important to the Egyptians and to us, and Arafat did not care either way," an aide to Rabin said last night. "So he agreed, and the visit will begin Friday afternoon, as far as we know."

The deal was finalized in both the Mousa-Peres phone conversation as well as in a one between the Israeli chief negotiator with Palestinians, Maj.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, and his Palestinian counterpart, Nabil Shaath.

(Continued on Page 11)

Opposition planning to launch 'Battle for Jerusalem' tomorrow night

A MASS demonstration is scheduled by all opposition parties in Jerusalem tomorrow night to protest Yasser Arafat's visit, and warn him against visiting Jerusalem. The rally will be held under the slogan: "The battle for Jerusalem has begun."

The demonstration at Zion Square is to start at 9:30 p.m. and will be the centerpiece in an array of protests launched by the opposition and decided upon at a meeting of all opposition party representatives yesterday morning at Likud headquarters.

Not all details of the opposition's plans were publicized in view of what Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi called "the hostile way the government intends to deploy the police against the protests." However, he stressed that "all actions will be legal and within the bounds of democratic right to assembly and free speech, despite the fact that the government is edgy about our exercising these rights."

There will also be rallies at all major intersections in the country. These will be advertised locally on billboards and at local branches of all the opposition parties.

Taking part at yesterday's meeting were Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu and other top Likud officials, Moledet's Rehavam Ze'evi, Tsomet's Moshe Peled, the National Religious Party's Zevulun Hammer and the surprise of the gathering – Esther Salmowitz of Yi'ud.

Salmowitz's three-MK faction is now negotiating to join the coalition. She herself is known to oppose the move to join the government. She declined to comment yesterday as to whether she showed up at the opposition caucus as her faction's representative, or in a personal capacity, but stressed that so long as no coalition agreement had been finalized, she considers herself part of the opposition.

SARAH HONIG

Netanyahu told the gathering that "whether or not Arafat includes Jerusalem in his travel itinerary on this visit or on the next, this visit marks the beginning of the battle for Jerusalem because for Arafat, this visit is the first step in the Moslem jihad for Jerusalem which he had promised.

"Arafat is coming as a head of state in a victory march. This is the first step to the establishment of a Palestinian state, which will claim Jerusalem as its capital. The Rabin government is aiding and abetting in this scheme and creating the gravest danger ever to its own nation's survival."

Hammer accused the government of initially "asking Arafat to schedule his visit on the Jewish sabbath. Arafat planned to come on Friday and sources around him report – and there is no reason to doubt them – that it was the Israeli government which urged that he come on Saturday instead."

The result, according to Hammer, is "not just the desecration of the Sabbath via the need to send out so many men in uniform on the Sabbath to protect this mass murderer. The government had a far more sinister motive. The idea was that if the visit takes places on the Sabbath, observant Jews will be unable to come out to join the protests, and thereby this intolerant government hoped to cut the size of the demonstrations against it." Hammer's contention was not entirely dismissed by Labor sources.

There had been stiff complaints from Shas to the government over this, accompanied by warnings that unless the government backtracked from the Saturday schedule for arafat's visit, the door on any possible future Shas re-entry to the government would be forever closed. This led the government to ask Arafat to come a day earlier.

To intensify the pressure, Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef had the party's Knesset faction chairman MK Shlomo Benizri phone Rabin and threaten that Shas would support the religious parties' no-confidence motion if the government did not make sure that Arafat changed his schedule.

Likud executive bureau chairman MK Uzi Landau compared Arafat's arrival in Gaza to "Hitler's victorious march into Paris in World War II, with the French collaborators headed by Marshal Petain deploying the French police to protect Hitler in the name of peace. Arafat, at least in his aims and hate, is a latter-day Hitler and we will do battle against him and those who collaborate with him for as long as it takes.

"Our battle will be legal and democratic, although this minority government has no mandate to do what it does. It is propped up by Arab and Communist MKs whose aims are identical to Arafat's.

"This is a government which doesn't insist that Arafat carry out his part of the bargain and abolish the PLO covenant calling for Israel's total destruction. It neglects our MIAs but releases thousands of Arab terrorists, including Hamas murderers sentenced to life. This is a government which bankrupts our health services and pension funds but contributes to the PLO and solicits contributions for it abroad. It forgets that it is the

(Continued on Page 11)

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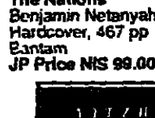
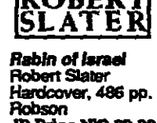


A Place Among The Nations
Benjamin Netanyahu
Hardcover, 467 pp 1993, Bantam
JP Price NIS 99.00

Summing Up - An Autobiography
Yitzhak Shamir
Hardcover, 276 pp. 1994
Weidenfeld & Nicholson
JP Price NIS 79.00

Arafat, The Biography
Andrew Gowers & Tony Walker
Softcover, 610 pp. 1994, Virgin
JP Price NIS 34.00



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Poll: Most Israelis now support talks with PLO

DAVID MAKOVSKY

FIFTY-NINE percent of the public has come to terms with Israel's negotiations with the PLO, and half now believe that Israel should no longer apply any significant force in maintaining law and order in the territories, according to a new poll just released by the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

Fifteen months ago, support for talks with the PLO stood at 46% and those believing no significant force should be applied in the territories stood at 33%.

Furthermore, according to the poll, the number of Israelis opposing almost all settlements has gone up from 26.2% to 33.8% in the last six months. Those supporting all settlement activity dropped from 30.9% to 25.2% during this period.

At the same time, the public has yet to be convinced that peace agreements with Palestinians or Syrians will lead to a wider regional peace.

"The main message of this poll," said Professor Efraim Inbar, director of the BESA Center, "is that a dovish shift in Israeli attitudes, evident for several years, continues. Rabin is managing to lead Israelis beyond long-standing and widely accepted political positions, and he has succeeded in de-legitimizing Jewish settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Golan Heights.

"Moreover, Israelis are increasingly tired of the conflict, and in the absence of an opposition with a clear political alternative, Rabin has been able to hold sway."

At the same time, Inbar also says the poll points to a lack of enthusiasm for the Rabin government.

According to the poll, support for Labor is at 24.5%, compared to 25.9% six months ago, while Likud has failed to capitalize on Labor's problems and dropped from 29.8% to 25.4% during this period.

The poll demonstrates virtually no support for full withdrawal from the Golan. However, when the question about full withdrawal was phrased in other polls to include adequate security arrangements and not just withdrawal, support jumped to 37%.

According to the BESA poll, when asked if Israelis would agree to partial withdrawal from the Golan, support rose from 35% to 45% in the past year.

The poll was conducted by Modi'in Ezrahi, which surveyed 1,149 adult Israeli Jews in face-to-face interviews between May 29 and June 14. The sampling error is 3 percent.

Christopher arriving on July 17 to try to break deadlock with Syria

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher announced yesterday he would return to the region July 17 in an attempt to break the Israeli-Syrian stalemate, which he declared to be an "overriding" US interest.

"I think the time is ripe [for progress] and I hope I'm right," Christopher told the Senate foreign relations committee.

Christopher said "there are very big stakes" involved in the negotiations. His trip will likely include stops in Amman and Cairo, and Christopher will then head to Bangkok for the annual conference of Association of South East Asian Nations.

Deputy foreign minister Yossi Beilin, visiting in Washington, told a B'nai B'rith forum: "I am very hopeful about the next visit of the secretary. I do believe we are very close to a real possibility of making peace with Syria. But that does not mean we will have peace... This is the time in which we can really move toward peace."

At the Senate hearing, Christopher also offered the US's strongest statement yet regarding a potential American force on the Golan.

Asserting that such an option is "quite hypothetical," Christopher nevertheless stated that the US "will not preclude itself from assisting the parties if the US presence or the international presence would make the difference between peace and possible war in that region.

"The purpose of American troops there would be to carry out a peace between Syria and Israel. I think there would be an overriding interest in that kind of an agreement being carried out, and in effect, effectuated by an international presence or an American presence, and I would not like to preclude that."

Christopher said an Israeli-Syrian agreement "would unlock the possibilities for peace in the area that were almost unimaginable," and "holds the key" to Israel's integration in the region.

Speaking of the negotiating capabilities of Prime Minister Rabin and Syrian President Hafez Assad, Christopher said "their seriousness is a very good sign."

Palestinian policeman fires shots near Israeli car in Jericho synagogue parking lot

HERB KEINON and JON IMMANUEL

A PALESTINIAN police fired shots near an Israeli car in the parking lot of the Shalom al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho yesterday, after asking the driver of the car to remove the vehicle.

According to Rabbi Mordechai Rabinovitch, dean of the yeshiva at the site, the incident occurred at about 10 a.m., when a car bringing supporters to the yeshiva parked underneath a palm tree in the parking lot.

"As the car pulled up, the Palestinian soldiers ran over waving a gun, and yelled that they can't park there," Rabinovitch said. "When the driver got out of the car to see what was happening, one soldier placed his loaded rifle at his chest."

Rabinovitch said that when the driver went back into the car to move it, the policeman fired into the ground. Another Palestinian policeman fired a burst of shots into the air, Rabinovitch said.

Rabinovitch said that Palestinian police, in the meantime, took up positions around the yeshiva, and aimed their guns at the building.

Israeli troops, part of the joint patrol, heard the gunfire and raced to the area. The tense situation, he said, was then defused.

Earlier in the day, according to Rabinovitch, two students were dropped off on Route 90 that runs through Jericho at the entrance to the yeshiva's parking lot. When they started to walk to the yeshiva, "a Palestinian soldier came up and aimed a loaded gun at them. They managed to wriggle away."

The joint Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee dealt with the incidents yesterday.

"This is an absolutely intolerable situation," Rabinovitch said. "We demand that the Palestinian soldiers there be replaced by IDF soldiers."

Mohammad Shaker, the Jericho police spokesman, said that one of the settlers pointed a gun at the policeman, and tried to provoke him, so the policeman fired at the ground. "The important thing is that we should all work together to prevent these incidents" he said.

Palestinians clean the Gaza streets of Deir el-Balah yesterday, along the expected route that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat will take on his tour of Gaza today. (AP)

Media pour in to cover Arafat's arrival

LIAT COLLINS

AMONG the hundreds of foreign press arriving in Gaza to cover Yasser Arafat's visit are journalists from Jordan, Morocco, Qatar and an Iranian working for a French news service, according to Israeli officials. Big name TV anchors might not have had time to fly in from North America, however, and it is not clear if any of them will cover Arafat's entrance in person.

"One of the problems we are trying to solve is the issue of visas of those arriving from countries with which we do not have diplomatic relations," said Uri Dromi, director of the Government Press Office. Although many journalists are traveling to Gaza from Egypt, they have to pass through the Israeli visa control at the border terminals.

Unlike Jericho, where journalists and photographers have been sitting in anticipation of Arafat's visit for more than a month, Gaza seems unprepared for the mammoth media attention. Reporters complain of lack of basic equipment, including phones and faxes. Many are renting rooms in private houses since the Palace Hotel has been reserved entirely for Arafat staff.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gaza, Jericho may be closed to Israelis

For security reasons, Israelis may be prevented from entering Gaza and Jericho during PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's visit, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz said yesterday.

Hefetz said that no final decision had yet been made on the move, but that it was being considered by security officials.

Preventing Israelis from entering the autonomous regions was seen as a way to prevent clashes between the two populations, and a possible attempt on Arafat's life by a Jewish extremist.

Hefetz, speaking to reporters, declined to speak about intelligence information compiled by police and the General Security Service on plans to assassinate Arafat.

Hefetz called on right-wing leaders to "restrain" extremists within their ranks. If necessary, Jewish extremists would be arrested to prevent a violent attack during Arafat's visit, Hefetz said.

Court won't bar Arafat from Temple Mount

The High Court of Justice threw out a petition yesterday to block a visit to the Temple Mount by Yasser Arafat, on the grounds that it could not rule on such a petition until a visit was actually planned.

According to the State, Arafat does not intend to come to Jerusalem during his upcoming visit to Gaza and Jericho.

The petition was filed by the Temple Mount Faithful and its leader, Gershon Solomon. The petitioners stressed that they have repeatedly been denied the right to pray on the Mount for fear this would provoke rioting among the Arabs.

Telecom services ready for Arafat visit

Bezek has completed work on supplying telecommunications services to journalists during Yasser Arafat's visit in Gaza. The operation was ordered by the US company ITI, which received exclusivity in the field from the Palestinian autonomy authority.

Beit Louzon in Gaza, which will serve as the Palestinian press center, has been hooked up via fiber optic cable with Bezek facilities. This will allow hundreds of reporters and film crews to send material to their papers and networks. Two video channels have been set up to transmit transmissions from Gaza and a fully-equipped TV studio will also be available there if necessary.

IDF patrol attacked in South Lebanon

An IDF force was attacked yesterday morning while on a routine patrol near the village of Reihan in the security zone in south Lebanon. No casualties were reported, said an army statement.

Several Sagger anti-tank missiles were fired at the patrol, but the sources of the fire could not be traced.

Earlier yesterday morning, the air force struck Hizbullah strongholds in the Jabbel Tzaffi and Jabbel Rafia areas in south Lebanon. The targets are believed to be attack launch pads used periodically by Hizbullah.

Army sources yesterday said that they anticipate Hizbullah to step up attacks during PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's visit in Gaza and Jericho.

Fathi Arafat may attend J'lem medical parley

Yasser Arafat apparently won't be the only Arafat to visit during the next few days: his younger brother, Fathi, has been invited to be an honored guest in Jerusalem at the First World Congress of Labor and Delivery.

Dr. Fathi Arafat, a few years younger than his more controversial brother, but who bears a close physical resemblance to him, is a Cairo-based pediatrician who heads the International Red Crescent Society.

Dr. Arafat was invited to attend by Prof. Daniel Weinstein, head of the obstetrics division at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, who is the initiator and president of the congress.

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While we make every effort to correct such errors, we must ask our readers' indulgence for those occasions when this is not possible.
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3:30-4:30 p.m. Children's Games
4:00 p.m. Jewish War Veterans of America Presentation of the Colors
4-6:00 p.m. Professional Juggler
4:30-5:00 p.m. Model Airplane Demonstration
5-6:00 p.m. Clowns on Stilts
6:00 p.m. "Where the Wild things Are" – storytime based on Sendak's book, Betsy Diamant – Cohen of JELLY
Little League All-Star Games: 8-10 yrs. 1 p.m.; 10-12 yrs. -4 p.m.
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Set an example

YASSER Arafat's visit may have many evil consequences. His presence in Gaza and Jericho may unleash a wave of Palestinian fanaticism; it may trigger a re-awakening of what he and his lieutenants like to call "the armed struggle;" and it may create the kind of media hoopla that will turn history on its ear and portray the Palestinian Arabs as an innocent, wronged nation liberated from a colonialist Israel.

Indeed, the rush to turn his visit into a Hollywood movie script – the story of the native son's dramatic return to the land he was robbed of – – has already caused one Israeli paper to name Gaza as Arafat's birthplace. That Arafat himself says he was born in Cairo seems to get in the way of the fairy-tale.

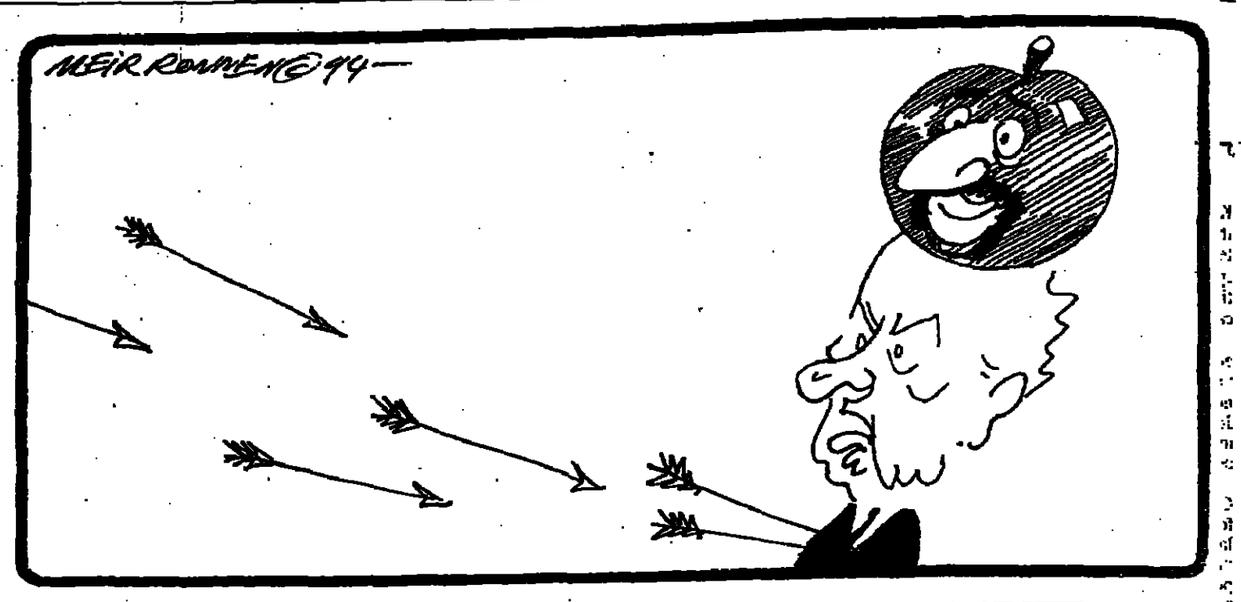
But no evil that Arafat can precipitate is as dangerous to Israel as the threat of civil strife. Yesterday's pronouncements by both Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres must have sent shivers down the spines of all concerned Israelis.

It is one thing to warn against the excesses of extremists – irresponsible fanatics exist in every society. It is quite another to accuse the mainstream opposition parties of plotting to take control of government offices by force. In the face of repeated assurances by all opposition leaders that they will brook no violation of the law by their followers, the government's declarations charging the opposition with waging war not on Arafat's visit but against democracy itself can only be described as ugly provocations and attempts to stifle dissent.

It is, of course, entirely possible that the government has received intelligence information about hotheads plotting serious violations and transgressions. There are hotheads who threaten order whenever a conspicuous visit takes place. Yet no government has ever accused its legitimate opponents, who usually represent half the population, of reckless irresponsibility and conspiracies to violate the law.

Citing the Shamgar Commission report, which called for stricter application of the law in the administered territories, Rabin vowed to use all necessary force against the protesters. Leaving aside that demonstrations are planned to take place mostly in Jerusalem – within Israel's sovereign borders, not in the territories – such threats can only encourage the police to ignore another report – the Kremnitzer Committee's scathing findings on police violence – so enthusiastically endorsed by Police Minister Moshe Shahal only three days ago.

The government's nervousness is understandable. This is a volatile country facing a severe test at a momentous juncture in its history. But this is precisely why cool heads must prevail. And it is the prime minister who should set the most persuasive example.



Daub of realism on a rosy canvas

ELIYAHU KANOVSKY

IN recent months, senior Israeli officials involved in the current peace talks have painted a sweeping vision of Middle East economic prosperity.

In a mood of at least mild euphoria, they envision the dawn of a new era of financial fortune and economic stability with the move toward Arab-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli peace agreements.

Moreover, some Israeli leaders have sought to "sell" the peace process to Israelis by holding forth the certainty and scope of economic gain as one of its primary benefits.

It has, indeed, become common wisdom that "the coming economic boom" constitutes, at least in part, the glue which will make peace agreements stick. Violations of the peace are unlikely, officials insist, if the parties have an abiding economic interest in adhering to the agreements.

It is safe to assume that Arab-Israeli peace agreements will have some salutary economic effect. But a close look at six commonly held propositions raises doubts as to whether they will, in fact, bring grand economic prosperity to the Middle East.

• Peace between Israel and the Arabs will stimulate the Arab economies by bringing about a large increase in foreign private investment.

Not so. The major economic problems of the Arab countries stem from adverse internal policies, rather than the conflict with Israel. Formal Arab-Israeli peace agreements will have a marginal effect, at best, on foreign private investment.

Moreover, peace and political stability alone are not a sufficient condition to attract private investment, especially from foreign sources. Private investors, regardless of nationality, seek a maximum rate of return consistent with a minimum risk for their capital, conditions that obtain far less in the Middle East than in the industrialized countries.

• Eliminating the Arab economic boycott will greatly help Israel's economy. Its abolition will be followed by large-scale foreign private investment in Israel.

The many estimates about the damage the boycott inflicts on the economy are just guesses; in truth, no one knows what might have been.

In general, companies that saw a comparative advantage in Israel did invest here, while those that saw no advantage did not. Thus, Intel, Motorola and other high-tech companies have factories in Israel, while General Motors has no reason to set up facilities here. These decisions are not related to the boycott.

The economic gains that will follow peace are by no means certain

Further, this country has enjoyed very high rates of economic growth, even with the boycott. Between the early 1950s and 1973, for example, it averaged about 10 percent per annum (excepting only a recession in 1966-67).

None of this implies that the boycott has no effect at all; or that limited impact makes it any less repugnant. What it does mean is that the impact of the boycott has been greatly exaggerated, and so have the consequences of its abolition.

• The signing of peace agreements between the Arab states and Israel will encourage large-scale regional trade, tourism, joint projects and other economic relations.

FROM A purely economic point of view, free trade is desirable for all parties. But a peace treaty will not erase deep Arab fears of Israeli domination. Moreover, the many obstacles to the free market in Arab countries have nothing to do with Israel, and so are not likely to be much diminished by peace with Israel.

• Peace between Israel and the Arabs will foster economic growth and prosperity by permitting all parties to make significant reductions in their unusually large military expenditures and reallocate these resources.

While reductions in expenses would probably benefit the economies in question, it is not clear how much the end of the Arab-Israeli conflict will lead to cuts in military spending by Arab governments.

That conflict is by no means the only source of dispute in the Middle East, and in many cases is hardly relevant to the size of an Arab country's armed forces. While the exact situation varies from country to country, most Arab leaders see the armed forces as the bulwark of their regimes against internal enemies, as well as defenders of the country against foreign aggression.

• The economic benefits of peace to the Arab regimes will be so great that they will have a vested interest in seeing the agreements fulfilled.

Suppose that rising prosperity did come to the Arab states following the peace agreements. Would that deter future aggression?

Economic ties didn't deter armed conflicts in Europe, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor or the current bloody conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Israel had extensive economic relations with Iran under the shah, but when the Moslem radicals took over in 1979, those relations came to an abrupt end.

There is almost no reason to think that prosperity would pacify the Arab states vis-a-vis Israel.

• Saudi Arabia will underwrite much of the cost of establishing the economy of the proposed Palestinian autonomous entity.

Those who make this suggestion must be totally oblivious to the parlous situation of Saudi state finances. For 11 consecutive years, the Saudis have run large budgetary and balance of payments (current account) deficits, with no end in sight. Their foreign debt of over $20 billion is large and rising rapidly.

In addition, the Saudi government has not forgiven the PLO for siding with Saddam Hussein during the Kuwait crisis; indeed, its anger remains raw. Under these circumstances, the Palestinians aren't likely to receive more than token financial aid from the rich Arab states.

Cessation of hostilities and bloodshed is a supreme benefit in its own right, with or without economic advantage. Looking strictly at the economic dimension, however, the peace agreements are likely to bring only limited benefits. Even the most comprehensive Middle East peace agreement will not deliver economic salvation to the region.

In propagating illusions of exaggerated benefit, government officials are doing the parties a disservice.

The failure to meet unsubstantiated forecasts can only disappoint and disgruntle, threatening to sour Palestinian Arabs, Israelis and others on the peace process – even on the concept of peace itself.

More realism and less daydreaming would do Mideast peace negotiators and their peoples a lot more good.

The writer is an economist and a senior research associate at the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University. This article is excerpted from a longer study recently published by the center.

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Dear *Jerusalem Post* reader,

This week we observed the fifth anniversary of the purchase of *The Jerusalem Post* by the Hollinger company, and of my appointment as President and Publisher of the paper.

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The change in ownership was followed by changes in management and staff, which were reflected in the tone of the paper. We are aware that there are readers who do not approve of our editorial policy. All papers that take unequivocal stands on crucial issues raise hackles. But on its opinion pages the *Post* also affords a platform to all serious viewpoints. Few journals in the world are as impartial in providing liberals and conservatives, doves and hawks, rightists and leftists, Arabs and Jews with an opportunity to express themselves side by side.

As Israel's only English-language daily, published in a country which generates an inordinate amount of world news, the *Post* draws extraordinary attention. It is the only foreign-language paper anywhere which has an international readership and a global reputation. Sold in 103 countries, it has faithful readers in Papua New Guinea and in the US Congress; in the royal court in Amman and in Jewish homes in Wyoming.

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We hope we can live up to your most exacting expectations, and that we shall have the privilege of serving you and keeping you informed for many years to come.

YEHUDA LEVY
President and Publisher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Sir, – Stan Goodenough's "The *stark reality of Jerusalem*" (June 24) is the most pragmatic, somewhat depressing and honest resumé of the Jerusalem question I have read, the more remarkable since, as the writer states, "I am writing as a concerned gentile observer of your Jewish nation's currently unfolding history."

As one who for some 35 years had been active in England in support of Israel and made aliya almost a year ago, I wonder if, had I known of the September 13 announcement of the Israel-PLO peace accord (exactly a week after we arrived), I would have been as keen on the aliya we had been planning for some years.

In all the years since June 1967, we always knew that Jerusalem was not negotiable. Now, however, we find that, in spite of statements to the contrary by Messrs. Rabin and Peres, negotiations do appear to be in progress, albeit on a quasi-unofficial basis, something that leaves me, like Mr. Goodenough, very concerned for the future of the State of Israel.

Enough is enough. It should be made loud and clear that indeed Jerusalem is not negotiable and will remain the undivided capital of the land of Israel.

KENNETH BERG
Caesarea.

FATAH HEROES

Sir, – This month marks the 12th anniversary of the murder of my late husband David Rosenfeld. David was 26 at the time of his death and left behind two sons, aged one and two. His murderer was 20 years old and was freed during the prisoner exchange in 1985. At the time, I remember my older son Daniel asking me if this meant his father was coming home too. Over the years, I have had to explain these tragic events to my sons. I have had to find explanations for myself as well. This was not always easy to do.

I have just been notified of the strong possibility that his killers, because of their status as heroes in Fatah, are now eligible to serve as Palestinian Police. The Prime Minister's Office has stated that "the Israel government cannot determine who will serve in the Palestinian Police." According to our agreement with the Palestinian leadership, the police force recruits shall be agreed by both sides. Why is Mr. Rabin so agreeable?

DORIT ROSENFELD
Jerusalem.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Sir, – Hopefully the new National Health Insurance Law will prove to be a blessing for all Israelis by providing good health care at a reasonable cost. It will definitely prove to be a boon to Western immigrants over the age of 60 who were finding it increasingly difficult and often impossible to get adequate health insurance coverage here.

The original bill was so ambiguous regarding coverage for these immigrants that it created serious doubt whether this group would be covered. The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel spent over a year trying to persuade the Health Ministry and the Peretz Committee to include more specific language. Finally, in early January 1994, a paragraph was added which clearly guarantees the coverage of all immigrants regardless of age.

All immigrants, including those already enrolled in any of the four health funds, will receive full coverage at a uniform, reasonable rate no matter to which fund they belong to. The law will probably go into effect in October 1994. This law removes what has proven to be a formidable barrier to aliya on the part of Western immigrants over age 60.

We wish to thank *The Jerusalem Post*, and especially Judy Siegel, for their excellent coverage of this problem and their help in keeping it in the spotlight.

MAX STAMLER,
MOSHE SHAMIR
Co-Chairman,
AACI NHI Committee
Netanya.

TEL AVIV AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Sir, – I arrived on TWA 894 on Friday night and experienced something on the flight I do not recall in well more than 50 flights to Israel, many of them on TWA.

On the Paris–Tel Aviv leg of the flight, I heard some new terminology. When the doors closed in Paris, the steward announced, "Welcome on board TWA flight 894 to Tel Aviv and the Middle East." It was mentioned a few more times during the flight, but I did not get disturbed until after landing, I heard the steward announce, "Welcome to Tel Aviv and the Middle East."

What happened to Israel? I didn't hear them say, "Welcome to Paris and Europe." They didn't say when we landed in Washington, D.C., "Welcome to Washington and North America."

To me it smacks of some sort of accommodation to the Arab world either directly or indirectly connected to the Arab boycott. This could be company policy or the initiative of a single employee. I intend to find out when I return to the US.

GEORGE EKEROTH
Jerusalem.

DISTURBANCES IN JERUSALEM

Sir, – As an Orthodox Jew (non-haredi), I fully comprehend the statement made by Rabbi Haim Miller, a United Tora Judaism city councilman, over the disturbances in Jerusalem, especially his words: "We must understand the pain of those trying to express anger at the desecration of graves" (June 22).

How sad though that the worthy rabbi does not go on to say that the correct place to vent such anger should be in Migdal Ha'emek, and not in Jerusalem, which is miles away from the scene of the argument. Might I venture to suggest that the rioting of June 20 was more connected with the trouble on the previous Shabbat, and the excuse it had to do with goings-on elsewhere in the country gave it an air of respectability.

DR. JOSEPH LUNZER
Jerusalem.

They can't see the wood for the trees

DANIEL BLOCH

SOME people are trying to push the myth that the right, which isn't ready for territorial compromise, represents the fearless, brave public, while the dovish left comprises a collection of weak-kneed defeatists afraid to take advantage of Israel's real strength.

But the reverse seems true. The extreme right, threatening disaster and catastrophe in the wake of any concession, is the weak element, soft and lacking faith. It doesn't believe in the IDF's power to defend our most vital interests, turning back the tide in the event of a serious breakdown in the peace process.

It seriously doubts the public's ability to maintain its firm determination on vital issues pertaining to security or supreme national values.

Extreme nationalism weakens our stamina because it doesn't distinguish between the main and the marginal, between what is essential and what is merely expedient. If poor Tel Rumeida is so important, if the yeshiva at the synagogue in Jericho is so necessary and the doubtful tomb of Joseph in Nablus so holy, in what terms ought we to be talking about Jerusalem or the security elements vital to a defensible border with Syria?

Those who dance around every unimportant grave are weakening Israel's capacity to stand firm. To the world, they're a joke, a curiosity. They create doubts over the seriousness of our determination to preserve what is really important to our people and our state.

The danger is that the extreme right will go the way of Menachem Begin and Moshe Dayan over Egypt (read Begin's speech against partial agreements with Egypt, and his fierce attacks on Anwar Sadat.)

It's worth remembering Dayan's "Sharm el-Sheikh is more important than peace," and what he said about the importance of building the town of Yamit – and then reminding everyone how quickly they gave up every last millimeter of Sinai.

I am among those who believe that had the negotiations with Egypt been conducted by leaders from the left and center, there would have been a chance of saving some small portion of the area through territorial compromise.

But Begin and Dayan didn't even try, and so a precedent was established vis-à-vis Syria. It's doubtful we can overturn it, even though we have to try. Which is what the present government is doing.

The extreme right, hysterical over every unimportant detail, drains our ability to insist on what is essential

In national policy, there's sense in the old saying that your grasp mustn't exceed your reach.

Had the Allon Plan been accepted at the end of the Sixties as Israel's official peace policy, there would have been some prospect of a compromise-based political process with Jordan or the Palestinians.

But we missed the bus. Today, the Allon Plan can't even serve as a basis for opening negotiations.

And yet we have no cause to despair or roll up our flags. There has never been a recognized international border in the area of western Eretz Yisrael, and the status of Jerusalem has never been institutionalized in any binding agreement under international law.

THESE ISSUES are open to negotiation. And in talks with the Jordanians and Palestinians, we might get significant results if only we can stick to the core essentials – preserving the River Jordan as our security border, retaining some of the settlements in Judea and Samaria and standing firm on Jerusalem as a unified city, our undivided capital.

Since Egypt and Syria are veteran sovereign states with recognized international boundaries, our legal position in relation to them is weak, and further weakened by the Egyptian precedent.

But in our negotiations with the Palestinians, all the cards are in our hands. Only we can give them territory, authority, an independent entity, and perhaps even a state.

By the end of the process, if all goes well with Israel's day-to-day security and the Palestinian leadership can maintain full control over what goes on inside the autonomy zone, there will be no avoiding our agreeing to a Palestinian state, disarmed and federally or confederately linked to Jordan.

Israel's agreeing to this will be conditional on the Palestinians giving up their demand that eastern Jerusalem become the capital of Palestine. At the same time, there's no reason to oppose a link between a Palestinian state and Palestinians living in Jerusalem. One of the Arab towns near Jerusalem could become the capital of a Palestinian state.

Israel needn't oppose Moslem-Palestinian management of the Islamic holy sites, if that's what the Moslems want. And there's no reason for us to object to Jerusalem residents who are Jordanian citizens converting their citizenship to Palestinian while continuing to live in Israeli Jerusalem.

There could be liaison offices in Jerusalem, at this stage with the self-government (autonomy) authority, and in future with the Palestinian government (just as an agreement with an Arab state would lead to that country's consulate or embassy in Israel). Thus there isn't any point in stirring up a fuss over Orient House, where the Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem are located.

The fact that the building contains several offices where political meetings take place doesn't affect our right to Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. On the contrary, it continues to underline Jerusalem's status as an open city of peaceful coexistence.

No visit to Jerusalem by Nabil Sha'ath or pilgrimage by Yasser Arafat to the mosques on the Temple Mount will weaken our power in Jerusalem (just as the pope's coming here and worshipping at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre wouldn't affect the status of Israel's capital, despite the Vatican's long advocacy of the internationalization of Jerusalem).

Setting up a "headquarters" to oppose Arafat's visit to Jerusalem may be a media gimmick by the city's mayor and some local right-wing politicians who want to bolster their national positions.

But it cannot help the struggle to preserve a unified Jerusalem as the capital of Israel alone.

The only way to strengthen Jerusalem is to divert all our resources and efforts from the territories to Jerusalem. The city can be ours forever if we keep a large Jewish majority through the years, if Jews of all kinds stream to Jerusalem, and young people remain in the city.

All this needs to be done quietly and wisely, without warlike declarations or superfluous provocations. The methods must be Teddy Kollek's; not Ehud Olmert's or those of the Ateret Cohanim yeshiva rabbis.

The writer is editor of Davar.

Principle of prior knowledge

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

THE Shamgar Commission's report is no retreat from the principles enunciated by the Kahan Commission, which found that Ariel Sharon, defense minister at the time, was indirectly responsible for the 1982 massacre in the Beirut Palestinian refugee camps, Sabra and Shatilla.

"We do not believe," concluded the Shamgar Commission, "that anyone can be blamed for not having foreseen the fact that a Jew would plan and carry out a massacre of Moslems in the Machpela Cave."

By way of contrast, the Kahan Commission noted that even before the assassination of the Phalangist leader Bashir Jemayel, "the possibility of the Phalangists perpetrating a massacre in the camps was not esoteric lore, which need not and could not have been foreseen."

The basis for the Shamgar Commission's conclusion was the lack of knowledge on which a reasonable apprehension of a massacre could be based. According to the published extracts of the report, the commission based its finding on three separate circumstances.

First, intelligence reports warned of the opposite – an attack by Hamas. Second, only a few early-morning Jewish worshippers, "many of whom were not young," were present at the time. And third, "...never in the 27 years since 1967 have weapons been used [there] by Jews against Moslems...."

In diametrical opposition, the Kahan Commission on the Sabra and Shatilla Massacres concluded: "In the circumstances that prevailed after Bashir's assassination, no prophetic powers were required to know that concrete danger of acts of slaughter existed when the Phalangists moved into the camps." In fact, the Phalangists had committed massacres in the past. Their inclinations were well known and highly publicized.

Even within the cabinet, when the decision to send the Phalangists into the camps was discussed, the question was asked – by David Levy – if there wasn't a danger of a massacre.

No wonder the Kahan Commission, in assessing Ariel Sharon's indirect responsibility, concluded that "it is impossible to justify the minister of defense's disregard of a massacre."

As Prof. Ruth Gavison has pointed out, the government made a deliberate decision to send the Christian Phalangists into the Palestinian refugee camps. Moreover, the massacre lasted two days without Israeli intervention.

There were no comparable underlying circumstances in the case of the massacre in the Cave of the Patriarchs.

Far from giving the Kahan Commission a "slap in the face," as Sharon declared in these pages ("Justice and Politics," June 28), the failure of the Shamgar Commission lies in following the model of the Kahan Commission report too closely, while distinguishing the very different factual situations involved.

As a result, the Shamgar Commission may have overlooked important aspects of the Machpela massacre that had no parallel in the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps.

The Shamgar report leaves disturbing questions. But the Machpela Cave was certainly no Sabra and Shatilla

HEADING THE list is Dr. Baruch Goldstein. The report surveys his past as a supporter of the late Meir Kahane. After Kahane's murder, Goldstein published a declaration saying, "Many acts of revenge will occur and be sanctified."

The commission recounts the three police files opened against Goldstein, all with a background of political fanaticism. In retrospect, it finds him a committed follower of the Kach movement, including the advocacy of revenge and of violent reaction against Arabs.

With all this prior knowledge available, was it reasonable to permit Goldstein to continue to serve as an officer and to bear arms?

The Shamgar Commission report notes that Goldstein "wore his army uniform with the insignia of rank, creating the image of a reserve officer on active service.... He would not have been prevented from carrying a weapon inside the cave, even if an ordinary citizen would have been prevented from doing so."

While no one could have anticipated that he would perpetrate a massacre in the Machpela Cave, surely there was sufficient basis to conclude that Goldstein in uniform, bearing arms, was a clear and present danger to public security.

Wasn't there real error – of both commission and omission – on the part of the authorities?

The various Kach factions had made no secret of their intention to stop at nothing in their opposition to the Oslo accord. Shouldn't their known activists have been deprived at least of officer's rank and the opportunity to carry weapons?

Labor MK Eli Goldschmidt, for example, proposed that the Kach organizations be declared illegal. Yet both the defense minister and the attorney-general failed to act until after the Hebron massacre.

The commission found Goldstein the sole culprit. The political fanaticism so dominant in his personality was thus clearly a crucial element in the circumstances surrounding the massacre.

Hence, the way the government dealt with political extremism like Kahanism in the period before the massacre should have been a major issue on the commission's agenda.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

The strangers who sojourn among us

YOSEF GOELL

A stock argument from ideological opponents of continued Israeli occupation: it has undermined Israel's own morality.

I have never found evidence to back this up – though the occupation did exacerbate some reprehensible tendencies that have been with us since way before June 1967.

I refer to the shameful exploitation of workers at the bottom of the economic pile, such as the Romanian construction workers who have been imported in recent months to replace the Palestinian workers kept out because of justifiable security needs.

Several thousand Romanian building workers have replaced Palestinians in the past half year or so, just as Thai and Filipino farm workers have replaced Palestinian workers on moshavim.

Recently, Israel TV reported on complaints of extreme exploitation by Romanian workers who were shown living in the hovels provided by their employers and labor importers. They weren't complaining about the woefully low wages – to which they had originally agreed – even though these are way below the official Israel minimum wage.

They were complaining about their appalling living conditions, about being cheated of their pay, and being intimidated by employers and importer-contractors who have kept them in quasi-serfdom by holding on to their passports and threatening them with instant deportation.

After the report, the Romanian embassy in Tel Aviv lodged a complaint with the Foreign Ministry. But there has been no official response so far.

Israelis who are deeply disturbed by the occupation immediately claimed that we learned such reprehensible behavior from our experience as occupiers. That's not true.

In the 1960s, the first Israeli Arab workers who were making their way into jobs at the bottom of the pile in the Jewish economy were shamefully exploited.

It is misleading and self-defeating to link this problem to the occupation. As the cases of the Romanians, the Thais and the Filipino housemaids attest, it will not go away with the end of the occupation.

Revolting as these examples of exploitation are, we behave much better than many modern countries which pride themselves on being humane and progressive (certainly better than the way the Americans in California and Texas treat their Mexican wetback workers). But such comparisons are no excuse for tolerating such inhuman, and un-Jewish, behavior here.

Abuse of foreigners who come here to do our dirty work is shameful, but it has nothing to do with the occupation

The pre-state Yishuv and early Israel were dominated by self-proclaimed socialists who evinced great sensitivity to the issues of the dignity of labor. The subsequent wane of ideological socialism should not, however, be permitted to undermine those values and attitudes which are deeply embedded in Jewish culture.

THERE HAVE always been Jewish and Israeli exploiters. But the current unwillingness to deal with them derives primarily from an erosion in social sensitivity which begins at the top. Prime Minister Rabin (of the so-called Labor Party) never waxed so dogmatic as when he announced last week that there will never be a capital gains tax on stock market profits, as long as he is prime minister.

Meanwhile, he, and all his Labor – and even more left-wing Meretz – ministerial colleagues have remained silent on the revelations of the exploitation of imported labor. And they have remained silent on the massive violations of minimum-wage laws in regard to Israeli workers – most of whom are new immigrants, women and Israeli Arabs.

If one cannot expect a corrupt, bourgeoisified Labor Party to care or do very much, is there perhaps room to expect the populist wing of the Likud to address itself to such issues? Not as long as it is mesmerized by the single issue of the territories.

In the Histadrut, which as a trade union sinned by ignoring the prolonged exploitation of the Palestinian workers under the occupation, secretary-general-to-be Haim Ramon has already seen fit to appoint a former Rabin adviser to head the Histadrut's International Relations Department.

The intention is to forge close relations with trade unions in the Arab world – a contradiction in terms.

But neither he nor his potential labor-union colleagues have seen fit to address themselves to the real problems facing Israeli and imported workers.

And our rabbis? Isn't the Bible's demand for fair treatment of laborers – and of "the stranger who sojourns among you" – part of the 613 precepts to which all observant Jews are committed?

All of this is shameful enough among ourselves. When we apply these practices to Romanians, Thais and Filipinos – and Palestinians – whom we import to do our dirty work, we are broadcasting our shame to the entire world.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on public affairs.

Justice never done

BRUCE BRILL

TOMORROW marks the 12th anniversary of the murder of David Rosenfeld, stabbed to death by a terrorist. For his family, the terror goes on.

Rosenfeld, 26, worked at Herodion as the head caretaker of the site for the National Parks Authority. He lived in nearby Tekoa with his wife Dorit and their two small boys.

Rosenfeld was more concerned about offending the sensibilities of local Arabs than about his own safety. He didn't carry a gun.

On July 2, 1982, he was waylaid by three local Arabs he had befriended on the only day he worked at Herodion alone. They stabbed him over 100 times.

The murderers were apprehended shortly afterwards. Owing to the heinous nature of their crime and because they had known their victim personally, the prosecution pushed for the death penalty.

Throughout the trial, Rosenfeld's widow clung to the hope that the court might hand down this sentence. And even though "life" sentences were expected, they came as a disappointment.

One small consolation for the family was the establishment of a new Jewish village not far from the site of the murder. It was to be called El David.

However, the government board which reviews the names of new places rejected the name, explaining that "no Jewish settlement can be named after a fallen soldier." The decision was ironic, seeing that Rosenfeld's burial in a military cemetery had been denied on the grounds that he was not in uniform at the time of his murder.

The road sign reading "El David," was replaced by one which said "Nokdim." Official petitions from Tekoa and the regional council, and a personal appeal from the president, were rejected.

Rosenfeld's widow decided to act. Like a thief in the night, aided by one confidant, she relettered the sign to "El David." The new village's residents subsequently decided that the name would be "Nokdim (El David)."

ANOTHER BATTLE the widow fought to preserve her husband's memory was setting up a memorial plaque at the site of the murder.

'Mommy, Mommy! The men who killed Daddy came home today!... Does that mean Daddy's coming home too?'

From the Book of Amos, she chose: "I will raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen... And I will bring back the captivity of my people Israel... and they shall no more be plucked up out of their land which I have given them, says the Lord thy God."

Local authorities objected. "If she wants her own choice of text," they said, "she can pay for it" – which is exactly what she did. Despite this, the parks authority replaced the plaque.

Rosenfeld's murderers were released in the 1985 Jibril prisoner exchange, returning to a heroes' welcome. The amplified celebrations could be heard by the horrified residents of Tekoa. Among them was Dorit Rosenfeld.

That same afternoon, her older boy Daniel, then five, ran home from kindergarten excitedly. "Mommy, Mommy! Did you hear? The men who killed Daddy came home today!... Does that mean Daddy's coming home too?"

The residents of Tekoa met to debate the appropriate reaction. But Dorit Rosenfeld's patience had run out. She declared that she would go to the murderers' homes armed with an Uzi submachine gun and mete out the justice the Israeli government apparently couldn't bring itself to apply.

This finally moved the residents of Tekoa. They went down to the Arab village and delivered a message: "Murderers will not be tolerated here." The men who had killed David Rosenfeld would have to leave.

The military governor of Judea and Samaria and the mukhtar of the village assured the widow that "the murderers agreed to leave for Jordan, and would not return."

Dorit Rosenfeld has clung to this assurance, poor substitute that it is for justice never done. However, information that her husband's murderers returned to the area some months ago has devastated the family.

On November 23, 1993, I asked the prime minister for his assurance that Rosenfeld's murderers would not serve in the Palestinian Police. Under section 4b of "Recruitment," the peace agreement clearly states that: "The list of Palestinians recruited, whether locally or from abroad, shall be agreed on by both sides."

It would be shameful were Israel unilaterally to relinquish its right to object to murderers serving as policemen.

The response from the Prime Minister's Office on June 5 was: "Israel cannot determine who will serve on the Palestinian Police Force." It gives Dorit Rosenfeld, and other families who are victims of terror, little comfort.

The writer is a Mideast security analyst.

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Jerusalem Vistas
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Isaiah 51, 1,2.
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at the Hilton Hotel, Independence Park, Hayarkon St., Tel Aviv.
Agenda:
1. Report on Activities.
2. Authorization of Financial Statements.
3. Election of Executive.
4. Miscellaneous.
H.E. The Canadian Ambassador, Mr. Norman Spector will honor us with his presence.
Guest speakers after the meeting:
Mr. Micha Harish, Minister of Industry and Trade
Mr. David Reichman, Chairman of the Board and C.E.O. of Darcom Ltd.
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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

A 6 FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1994

Inflation: Why didn't they see it coming?

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

LET us hope Haggai Merom doesn't make it anywhere near a list of future candidates for finance minister. His proposal, made Wednesday, stipulates that the Bank of Israel needs approval from the finance minister to make interest rate changes.

The trend worldwide, and rightly so, is for central banks to be totally independent; the theory being that finance ministries are influenced by political considerations while interest and exchange rate policies must be devoid of such considerations.

The local economy is an odd one, and the power of interest rates appears to be different from that in other nations. But the howls of protest heard in the wake of this week's rate hike are misplaced; short-term real rates are still negative and there has been little effect to date on the money supply.

Maybe what prompted Finance Minister Avraham Shohat's outburst on Wednesday was frustration that things aren't going his way. But he has only himself to blame. Not only has the government proved unable to make a dent in housing prices, but also double-digit inflation has been evident in government-influenced sectors like health and education – areas where the Treasury's capitulation in wage negotiations has played no small part.

The interest rate issue is not whether the rates should have been raised but rather when and by how much – to which the answer is probably sooner and more. Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, and for that matter Shohat, should have seen the inflationary tendencies coming and taken preemptive action, a less painful move than reactive measures. Where, one wonders, were their research departments and forecasting gauges? Asleep, it seems.

IEC: The right man?

IT is certainly very convenient that Moshe Shahal holds both the energy and police portfolios. This convenient coincidence has allowed him to push forward the appointment of Rafi Peled as managing director-designate of the Israel Electric Corporation.

Peled, readers will remember, quit as police inspector-general before the attorney general, at the Supreme Court's behest, re-examined whether he should face a disciplinary hearing. While Peled's departure is not an admission of guilt, he was certainly guilty of poor judgment and left the police under a cloud. One wonders whether a plum job with a government company is appropriate under the circumstances.

But these reservations are secondary to the question of whether Peled is the right, or the best, man for the job. The Electric Corp. is the country's largest company, with 1993 revenues of close to NIS 5 billion. The responsibilities and challenges that come with running the firm are immense. It serves the public, which owns it. It employs almost 10,000 people. Taking it into an era when it will face competition from the private sector will certainly be no simple task.

For such a managerial challenge, the IEC board would no doubt seek a candidate with a long and distinguished industrial career. But no, it decided to appoint a man with no commercial experience whatsoever. Admittedly he had a year's experience running a major organization – but one where critical matters like financing, margins, marketing, competition, industrial relations and customer service are non-issues.

Peled's appointment is not exactly political, but rather is compensation on Shahal's part for Peled leaving the police, which is hardly the taxpayers' problem. But what is more disturbing is the continued practice of rewarding ex-senior army and police officials with high-profile, well-paid jobs along with the perks – cellular phone, car and driver – they enjoyed in their previous careers. Since many senior politicians are ex-army officials, the situation is self-perpetuating.

The taxpayer is undoubtedly grateful to senior security officials who have devoted the best years of their lives to defending the country. But they have already been rewarded for their commitment and sacrifices with high rank, public recognition and an early pension. To entrust the management of huge enterprises to people with no industrial experience goes too far.

Legislation proposed this week to prevent discrimination against people on the basis of their army records does not go far enough. We have to stop favoring people just because of their army career.

'Palestinians not interested in cooperation with Israel'

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Palestinians do not want cooperation with Israeli businesses, Manufacturers Association Autonomy Committee Chairman Uri Menashe said yesterday.

Menashe, who addressed an Israel Management Center seminar on the economic agreement with the Palestinians, said that although individual Palestinian businessmen are interested in cooperation, the leadership is not.

"The Palestinian Authority has declared a boycott against business cooperation with Israel. Maybe we should also declare a boycott against employing workers from the territories," he said.

He noted that even Abu Ala, who heads the Palestinian team that negotiated the economic agreement, says that cooperation with Israelis will only take place after the Palestinians reach parity.

Even without cooperation, local industry has little to fear from the Palestinians. According to Menashe, Palestinian industry is made up of 1,500 "plants," 1,400 of which employ five workers or less. The remaining 100 factories employ between 6 and 100 workers.

Abu Ala (AP)

The future development of industry is not a high priority for the Palestinians based on the PLO's economic plan for the territories which came out of Tunis in June of last year.

The seven-year plan assumes that resources from donations, investments and production will reach $13 billion. Nearly half of that amount, or $6b., will be spent on construction, especially housing; $3b. for education; $1.2b. for agriculture and water; $650 million for energy; and only $400m. for industry. Out of the $400m., only $200m. will go toward new plants.

Menashe noted that even the small amount of money directed to industrial development is likely to be wasted, since the Palestinians are going after nationalistic projects, such as building a cement factory, even though Israel and Jordan have excess capacity which the Palestinians could draw upon.

He concluded that as far as Israel is concerned "there is no real trade-off."

Banks not allowed to push credit for securities

JOSE ROSENFELD

SUPERVISOR of Banks Ze'ev Abeles yesterday forbade the banks from marketing financial instruments by encouraging customers to borrow money in order to purchase them.

According to Abeles, the prohibition is required since the banks' recent aggressive marketing campaigns have encouraged customers to borrow money in order to purchase mutual fund participation shares or stock. This has left many of the borrowers hard-pressed to cover loans as a result of the sustained drop in stock market prices.

The campaign left the banks open to criticism that their interest to maximize gains by means of commissions on the sale of mutual fund participation shares, management fees derived from the funds and margins from the loans clashed with the best interests of their customers.

In this regard, at the beginning of the year Abeles ordered the banks to stop their marketing campaigns for purchasing mutual fund shares on credit after the extraordinary growth in borrowing in the preceding two months. At the time, the directive was aimed at preventing the banks from becoming over-exposed to the ever-growing potential of default on such credit should it continue expanding at such a fast rate.

Yesterday's order applies to the purchase of securities, time deposits, foreign currency deposits, savings programs, futures and rights to any of these instruments.

The prohibition to solicit customers includes marketing and advertising campaigns at individual branches or on a regional basis.

Fruit growers object to imports

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

REPRESENTATIVES of the Fruit Growers Board plan to hold an emergency meeting Sunday to express their objections to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat's plans to import fresh fruit.

Shohat proposed that the government open up the market to import fresh fruit for a period of one year. The minister claims this year's drop in fruit yields has resulted in an increase in prices, which is expected to continue to rise in the future. Shohat has proposed importing apples, pineapples, peaches, nectarines and plums.

Shalom Blair, managing director of the Fruit Growers Board, said the board has approved the entrance of 150 to 200 tons of plums from Jericho during the last few weeks as a measure to reduce the shortage.

"In the past, we have also suffered from a shortage of fruit but since Israel produces a wide range of fruit like citrus, bananas... there is no reason to import fresh fruit from other countries," said Blair.

The board appealed to Prime Minister Rabin yesterday to persuade Shohat to discuss his proposal with the fruit growers before bringing the proposal in front of the government.

Banks plan continuous foreign currency service

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Bank Leumi announced this week that it will offer continuous foreign currency trading services from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., while United Mizrahi Bank announced it will offer continuous trading services until 5:00 p.m.

All the banks will start offering continuous foreign currency trading services for the first time on July 4, within the framework of the Bank of Israel's liberalization of it's foreign currency policy. Continuous trading will allow individuals and business to negotiate foreign currency transactions with the banks throughout the business day. The rate will fluctuate all day and will vary from bank to bank. As a result, customers will be able to shop around for the best exchange rates.

Bank Leumi will apply the new system to orders of $50,000 or more, even though the Bank of Israel has instructed the banks to apply the system to orders of $100,000 and more. The existing multilateral trading system will remain in existence for orders of less than $100,000.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Hapoalim official retires: Moshe Olenik, deputy chairman and joint managing director of Bank Hapoalim, retired yesterday.

Israel Electric Corp. Managing Director Moshe Katz yesterday proposed that customers be allowed to pay electricity bills by credit card. The proposal is subject to the approval of the company's board of directors.

Bank Hapoalim estimates that prices rose 1.2% in June, reversing the trend of lower inflation during the summer months.

The main culprit for the steep increase is fruit prices, which shot up significantly due to the heat wave in April which damaged much of the summer fruit.

Reacting to the significant contribution of fruit prices to inflation figures, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat has called for fruit imports to help keep prices in check.

Israel looks to update civil aviation pact with US: Israel is seeking to "update" its civil aviation agreement with the US to limit the number of American carriers serving Tel Aviv, Transportation Minister Yisrael Kessar said in Washington.

Following a Wednesday meeting with US Transportation Secretary Federico Pena, Kessar told Israeli reporters that Israel wants to insure "that El Al doesn't lose more money as privatization [of the company] approaches."

Pena said he would have an answer for Kessar in two months.

Phone line installation cost lowered: The Knesset finance committee yesterday approved a reduction in the charge for installing a phone line from NIS 590 to NIS 430, plus VAT.

WORLD BRIEFS

US factory orders up: Orders received by US factories increased during May for a third straight month, boosted by strong demand for new aircraft, the Commerce Department said. *Reuter*

Coffee prices rise: Worries that frosts in Brazil may further choke world coffee supplies drove prices to fresh 7½-year highs amid renewed signs that shoppers will have to foot some of the bill. *Reuter*

Oil prices rallied amid news that the civil war in Yemen had affected crude oil flows for the first time since fighting began in early May. *Reuter*

The Bank of France trimmed its leading interest rate for the eleventh time in four months, but the half-expected move failed to bring any cheer to the financial markets. *Reuter*

G7 ministers have their work cut out for them: Ministers gathering next week in Naples for the Group of Seven (G7) summit have got to come up with something rock-hard on the US currency if they want to head off another bout of dollar and bond selling, analysts said. *Reuter*

AEG AG, the electrical engineering subsidiary of Daimler-Benz AG, said it had sold its remaining office products business to Hong Kong investor Yong Ling Liu, ending years of search for a buyer. *Reuter*

India-Russia sign pacts: Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and President Boris Yeltsin signed agreements to boost flagging ties but failed to strike a deal on New Delhi's estimated $10 billion debt to the ex-Soviet Union. *Reuter*

Pioneer International Ltd

South African Economic Statistics

			Prices 29.6.94	Prices 22.6.94	%Change
Exchange rates:	Commercial rand	:	3.638	3.656	0.49%
(buy)	Financial rand	:	4.750	4.745	-0.11%
Interest rates:	Money market (BAs)	:	10.95%	10.75%	1.86%
(Ry)*	Escom 2008	:	14.15%	13.58%	4.20%
	Escom 2020	:	15.01%	14.27%	5.19%
	RSA 150	:	14.76%	13.54%	9.01%
	UAL Max Income	:	12.89%	13.53%	-4.73%
Prices: UTs:	OM Investors	:	R 39.5551	40.4485	-2.21%
(buy)	Escom 170	:	90.20137	94.18	-4.22%
	Guardbank	:	35.2511	36.5927	-3.67%
	UAL Gilt	:	12.1063	12.2235	-0.96%
	Max Income	:	10.662	10.6954	-0.31%
Shares:	De Beers	:	109.50	115.00	-4.78%
(close)	Vaal Reef	:	410.00	430.00	-4.65%
	Anglo American	:	230.25	238.00	-3.26%
	Barlows	:	34.00	36.00	-5.56%
	SA Brews	:	89.00	92.50	-3.78%
	Sasol	:	24.50	25.20	-2.78%
	Tiger Oats	:	46.00	49.00	-6.12%
	Iscor	:	3.48	3.49	-0.29%
	JSE Actuaries Overall	:	5,487	5,721	-4.09%

*RY – running yield.

COMMENTS: The UAL Fund Manager has once more moved out of long-dated gilts into cash. Turbulence surrounding the budget led to ESCOM prices falling 5.75%. The UAL Fund, however, managed a slight gain bringing the total outperformance of ESCOM since the Fund launch to - 6% for ESCOM and +2.1% for the UAL Fund. The move into cash has meant a temporary drop in remittable income while the Fund Manager waits for the yields to rise sufficiently before buying back into longer dated gilts.

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COMMSTOCK

CommStock Trading is pleased to make its institutional newsletter, edited by Senior Investment Advisor Harry Aloof, available to the public for the first time.

FACT: June 10, 1994

The Report issued a buy alert on coffee when July coffee was trading at $1.2485 with a price objective of $1.7950.

Risk/reward ratio 5:1.
$3750 vs $20,193.75 per 1 contract.

FACT: June 29, 1994

Coffee has reached and surpassed our price objective (closed $1.8875).

For a complimentary copy of our Report, contact Alan Schwartz in our Jerusalem office.

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PIA-TARGET (MATARA), PIA-PRIME
Mutual Funds for Foreign Residents

Notice: A special offering of units: Leumi Pia, Trust management company Ltd., is offering, in accordance with the Prospectues, units in the Funds with an added amount of 0.25%, throughout the period beginning 3.7.94 and ending 29.9.94*.
The distribution commission to the members of the Stock Exchange will be all of the above mentioned added amount.
* PIA-TARGET 14:00, PIA-PRIME 11:00.

The Manager:
Leumi-Pia
Trust Management Company Ltd.
leumi pia

The Trustee:
Kesselman & Kesselman
Trust Company (1971) Ltd.
קסלמן וקסלמן

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (29.6.94)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.000	4.375	5.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.500	3.875	4.625
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.000	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.250	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.500	0.625	0.875

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (30.6.94)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3290	3.3780	—	—	3.3513
U.S. dollar	3.0129	3.0554	2.98	3.10	3.0330
German mark	1.8881	1.9157	1.86	1.94	1.9028
Pound sterling	4.6323	4.6977	4.54	4.76	4.6831
French franc	0.5507	0.5585	0.53	0.57	0.5552
Japanese yen (100)	3.0409	3.0838	2.98	3.13	3.0622
Dutch florin	1.6840	1.7078	1.65	1.73	1.6871
Swiss franc	2.2382	2.2708	2.20	2.30	2.2801
Swedish krone	0.3908	0.3963	0.38	0.40	0.3955
Norwegian krone	0.4330	0.4391	0.43	0.45	0.4365
Danish krone	0.4808	0.4875	0.47	0.49	0.4846
Finnish mark	0.5663	0.5743	0.56	0.58	0.5718
Canadian dollar	2.1801	2.2109	2.14	2.24	2.1936
Australian dollar	2.2068	2.2381	2.13	2.25	2.2170
S. African rand	0.8250	0.8366	0.65	0.82	0.8304
Belgian franc (10)	0.5168	0.5297	0.50	0.54	0.5233
Austrian schilling (10)	2.6829	2.7207	2.64	2.76	2.7062
Italian lira (1000)	1.9033	1.9302	1.86	1.97	1.9184
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.23	4.50	4.2765
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.88	0.92	0.9057
ECU	3.8095	3.8604	—	—	3.8351
Irish punt	4.5656	4.6198	4.45	4.73	4.5942
Spanish pesets (100)	2.2903	2.3226	2.23	2.38	2.3183

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	...NIS 3.0330	+ 0.03%
Sterling	.....NIS 4.6631	- 1.08%
Mark	.....NIS 1.9028	- 1.04%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3626.91	-40.14
DJ Transport	1593.7	-11.91
DJ Utils	176.77	-1.32
DJ Comp	1288.6	-11.96
NYSE Indstry	301.56	-2.22
NYSE Transport	241.84	-1.26
NYSE Comp	245	-1.72
S&P 100	410.51	-3.54
S&P Spot Index	448.09	-3.64
AMEX Comp	422.78	-0.7

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share Movements	+663	807	1344
Volume up (in 1000's)			61308
Volume down (in 1000's)			182589

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	2919.2	-27.1
Tokyo Nikkei average	20643.9	+192.9
Singapore all-shares index	550.42	+3.19
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	8758.41	+118.1

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
WYSE / AMEX		
Ass Is Pap	41.5	-0.5
Angel A	6.75	-0.25
Aryt	1.75	0
Bezeq	2.625	+0
Cannel Cont	6.875	+0
Elscint Chase-Fruitcorp	2.25	0
Elscint	1.875	+0.125
Etz Lavud	6.75	-0.25
Etz Lavud A	6.125	-0.25
Lesser Inds C	5.375	+0.125
PEC	29.5	-0.375
Tadiran	14.75	-0.375
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	4.25	+0
4D	3.625	-0.125
Acrpet 8.5	20.5	0
BVR Tech	4.5125	+0.5625
Cornerstone Tech.	6.875	+0.5
Data Sys	7	+0.25
ECI Tel	16.25	-0.5
Edunetics	4.125	+0.125
Eldo-Soft	7.25	+0
Elscint Fuel	6.25	+0.125
EFFI	16.25	+0
Elbit	15.75	-0.5
Elron	9	-0.625
Ephod Robotec	0.5875	0
M. Systems	3.5	+0.0625
Gilat	9.375	+0.0625
ISG	2	-0.125
Geotek	7.5	+0
Health Tech	2.125	-0.3125
Ituran	0.46875	+0.03125
IIS	5.375	-0.25
Indigo	13.625	+0
Interpharm	18.25	+0.25
First Isr Fund	12.5	+0
Isratek	0.5625	+0.03125
Lannet	6.375	-0.75
Lanoptics	6.75	+0
Magal	4.875	-0.125
Made-in	4.125	+0
Magic	6.5	-0.625
Optibase	8.625	+0.375
Orbotech	2.5	+0.063
Reda	2.625	-0.25
Robogistics	1.75	+0
Saphire	4.5	-0.125
Scitex	17	+0.25
Silicon	3.85	+0.4375
T.A.T. Technol	5	+0
Taro Vit	5.5	+0.125
Teledata	9.75	-0.25
Telegraph	2.75	+0
Teva	29.875	-0.1875
TVG	1.375	-0.25

(All listings are closing quotes)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 30-JUN-94)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.544	-0.0012
	Sep.future (CME)	1.5424	-0.0016
D-mark:	spot	1.5995	+0.0006
	Sep.future (CME)	0.6299	-0.0011
S-franc:	spot	1.2538	+0.0001
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7909	-0.0002
Yen:	spot	98.5	-0.25
	Sep.future (CME)	0.010211	+5e-006
CanDlr:	spot	1.3932	+0.0007
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7202	-0.0008
AusDlr:	spot	0.7235	+0.0009
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7275	+0.0008
F-franc:	spot	5.4385	-0.0015
It Lire:	spot	1575	+7.5
Nig:	spot	1.7784	-0.0001
Austrsig:	spot	11.2515	+0.006
Rand:	spot	3.4525	+0.001
ECU:	spot	1.3055	-0.0005
Bonds	future	101.219	-1.3125
S and P	future	444.4	-4.4

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	4.875	0
Dollar	6 months	5.25	0
Dollar	12 months	5.8125	0
Sterling	3 months	5.1875	0
Sterling	6 months	5.5	0
Sterling	12 months	6.25	+0.0625
S-franc	3 months	4.375	+0.0625
S-franc	6 months	4.4375	0
S-franc	12 months	4.625	0
D-mark	3 months	5	0
D-mark	6 months	5	0
D-mark	12 months	5.25	0
Yen	3 months	2.1875	-0.0625
Yen	6 months	2.25	0
Yen	12 months	2.5	+0.0625

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 30-JUN-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (CEC)	1276	+28
Coffee (Jul) (CEC)	159.75	+1
Sugar no 11 (Jul.) (CEC)	11.48	-0.05
Wheat (Jul) (CBOT)	312.75	-2.75
Soybeans(Jul)(CBOT)	658.5	-1.5
Orange juice (Jul)(CEC)	84.5	-2.55
Cruse oil fgbl (Sep)(CEC)	18.85	+0.45

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (LCE)	951	+19
Coffee (Jul) (LCE)	2090	+12
Wheat (Sep)(LCE)	101.6	+0.15
Brent crude oil (Sep)(IPE)	17.27	+.45

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold	spot	386.05	+1.2
Silver	spot	5.4	+0.15

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Aug)	387.9	+1
Silver (Jul)	5.38	+0.123
Platinum (Jul.)	404	+4.4
Palladium (Sep.)	143.7	+3.7
High-grade copper (Jul)	1.0715	+0.0115

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	385.4	-0.4
Gold PM fix	386.25	+2.75
Silver fix	5.41.1	-1.9
Palladium PM fix	400.25	+0.75

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Date 30-JUN-94)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FirstIntl1	1.00	
FirstIntl2	2008	-12.0
General	8505	-3.5
IndDevDD		
IndDevPrD		
LeumiIntl1		
MercIC	169.50	-3.6
OHH	122854	
Trade	704	-3.7
TradeC	176.00	-3.6

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	339122	
Carmel	636	
CarmelB	269	-5.9
DanilMB	16366	-2.0
FirstMB	34825	-1.8
IndepMB	60883	
J IamC	121.50	-0.4
J IamW	82.50	
JlemBnk	250	
LeumiMBR	91888	-1.0
Mishlan	28561	
MishlanC	179.50	
Mishv	9884	-5.0
TefahotB	154112	-7.2
TefahotR	157107	-1.0

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shiton	7086	-7.7

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
IsraelIns1	1700	-10.0
Ararat	1511	-3.0
Ayalon	486	
AyalonC	485	-5.8
Eron	226	-2.1
ElronC1	196.00	-0.3
Hachsr1	1144	-8.0
Hadarim	1282	-5.5
HarelIsrnC	194.00	-0.5
HarelIsrnI	1338	-5.0
HarelIsrnS	1288	-4.7
Menorah1	1334	
MenorahS	1128	
PhoenInt1	3758	-5.0
PhoenIn5	3677	
Shirar	483	
Zion6	2934	

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
Isuhonis	814	
Melisi	535	-4.0
Neras	1424	-8.0
BondWid2	108.50	-12.0
BondWidC1	228.00	
BondWidC2	112.50	-7.4
BondWidT L	3445	-3.3
Clkg21	78888	-2.2
ClkCheqC	288	
ClkTWB	9550	-12.0
CorBeach	1888	-5.0
CoOp	1072	
Crystal	2551	-1.0
DanHotel1	2248	
DCL	853	
DCLW	185.50	
Elat	1800.00	-3.2
Fokkman	219	-3.5
GanHadar	1249	-7.1
GanHasC	191.50	
Gilsig02	177.50	
GrandC1	171.50	-1.5
GrandW2	90.00	-12.2
HISEC1	128.50	
HOMN1	65.00	-13.3
HSII	1484	-1.9
Inigamal1	3528	
Inigamal5	2285	1.0
Linz	1242	
Mell	1000	-2.9
Medtech	888	-5.1
MedtechW	680	-7.0
MULC1	168.00	
Repco	1948	-4.8
Rexhel	122.50	-5.4
RexhelC1	114.50	
Team	4088	
TeamC1	186.50	
TeamC2		
Telrep	1062	-4.5
TopSpe	297	-0.5
YaadC1	112.50	
Yesha	1164	-2.0
Yadel	776	-4.5
Yona	662	-2.9

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ashomatic	168.00	-10.0
electrop	1480	
inco	486	-5.4
isrlog	417	-3.6
isrlgpr	313	-4.7
isrlcbell	395	
AdamC	118.50	
AdmdC	314	
AdocomC2	15.60	-3.1
Alumex	892	-3.0
Alony	285	
AlonyW1	16.50	-18.4
Alvanim	2244	
Angel	1000	-0.5
Angelcom	553	-4.7
AryC1	94.00	-2.8
Ashdy	1801	-5.5
Ashdod1	185.00	
AshdyW2	828	
AshenW1		
Ashkrom	284	
Atarion	518	-2.8
AtomonW1	142.50	-30.1
Azimuth	450	-2.0
Belmon	440	-5.2
BoulocC1	183.00	-1.9
Cables C2	278	
CblNetC3	128.00	-2.4
CablesWg	292	-5.1
Carolina	1029	0.3
Cargal	1271	-0.5
Castro	1280	-3.0
Chats	902	
ChatsW1	30.50	-16.3
ClalSecC	288	
ClalSrb1	1882	-5.0
Clnd Oil	176.50	-3.0
CyclonsW	2806	-14.2
Cyclone1	7062	-10.0
Cyclone5	5618	-0.5
CyclonD1	158.00	-0.6
CyclonC2	118.00	-5.3
Delfonis	173.00	
DelfonW2	1888	
Delfon1	3349	-0.2
Decision	484	
Degem1	2103	-4.0
Delta T	1988	
Delta2	1888	
DubekS	10328	-1.2
DubekR	10800	-1.5
EngleC1		
EngleC2	45.00	
EngleW3	36.50	
Eagle1	832.00	
Edgar	301	-2.8
ElronC2	127.00	-0.4
ElronTec	78.00	-0.7
ElronW1	69.50	-7.5
Elronics	4650	-2.0
Elronon	1082	-1.0
ElronW1	60.50	
Elron S5	5943	-0.3
ElronC4	291	-4.7
ElronC	233	0.4
ElronRtno	288	-3.5
Elscint	575	0.4
Fenton	1889	-15.0
FenW2.1	2139	-10.0
FenchelW1	4462	-1.0
FenchelW5	3900	-1.5
Fire J	306	
FrutexC1	181.00	
FrutexC2	165.00	
GiborC1	92.50	-1.6
GiborSub	1000	-5.1
GiborW3	990	-2.1
Golan	1127	-0.3
Hamlet1	1800	
HatsbaS1	2722	
Hatsbats5	1300.00	-5.4
Hod	208	-7.1
Hots	167.00	
IsrCon1	2888	-1.5
Isl-Gas	1888	-1.5
Kadmany1	222	
Kadsin	5735	
KedemC2	164.00	-4.1
Keter	411	
KlilmC1	134.00	-1.8
KlilmW1		
KRS	1885	
Lipski	2888	-2.0
Lodzia1	1438	
Lodzia4	1140	-1.5
LubotGal	167.00	
MaxFeh	271	
Megern	3388	-3.6
MeshiMed	1085	1.3
Meshiv5	1045	2.5
Mel Edav	800	-0.7
Modgal	883	-0.7
Monsisa1	834	
Monsis5	828	
NayDanam	828	
Nehusta1	1000	-5.0
Nehusta5	912	-7.0
Nevtex	936	0.5
NevtexW1		
Nicol	1148	-4.0
NIMC	482	-5.4
Ofra	744	-5.6
Ophir	2288	-5.6
Orbit1	3387	-1.5
Ortiva	494	-5.1
PardesW2	7185	
Pargod	2114	-1.0
PelDan	679	
PEN	800	-4.0
PolgatA	4035	-2.1
PolgatC1	171.50	-2.0
Polygon	888	
PolygonC	168.50	-4.0
POR	2700	-0.3
Rahaban	1788	
RahlatAN	176.50	-4.1
Ramot1	1884	-1.0
Sanot1	1088	-3.0
Sanot5	1018	
Sefen	888	
Shaman	14883	
Spatex	388	-4.8
Steel	138.50	-4.8
Suntrust	7848	-10.0
Tikal	4882	-2.0
Tadiran	833	-4.0
TadIC		
Tadiss	883	-3.5
Tiv	642	
Tobler1	274	-0.4
Tapper	1840.00	0.3
TATC1	184.00	-1.1
TAT7	432	-10.0
Unibet1	1388	5.0
Unibet5	838	
Vitalyo1	838	
VitalyW1	1820.00	-7.3
VolcanC	184.00	
Wandrson	14107	0.5
WandrsW3	7088	-0.5
YongC2	288	1.0
Zirkol	334	
Zitel	1818	
Zitel5	1402	-4.8
Zitel1	4338	
Zitelos	4185	
ZionCab1	1175	-4.0
Zohar1d	835	

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
Jacobshr	288	
Isred	418	-0.9
Isrdiel	888	-1.8
Yatsarg	184.50	
Akror	1405	-8.0
AlonC		
AlonWW1L	308	-19.0
Amidar1	291	-6.3
Amidar C1	162.50	-3.6
Arideri	1139	-2.0
Arrow	1738	
AsiaCA	142.00	1.1
AsiaW2	832	-7.2
Assuta	1228	
AssutaC1	244	
AssurC1	255	
AssurPrep	4268	
BaronsT	1198	
BayaldeS	25831	-0.3
BayaldC1	28019	
BenYaGov	3145	-4.0
BenYaGvW1	710	-3.6
BenYhurC	95.00	-1.4
BldgRat	4443	-5.0
Control	1887	-10.0
Danimer	1426	-1.0
DanSuneC	150.00	-1.6
Dead1	238	-7.0
Dushav	5128	-7.5
DushavDv	554	
Engel	888	
GalaHaus	287	-3.0
GldHousC	160.50	
Isras	3487	
IsrsIsrnC	204	
IsrsIsrnW	1888	-3.0
IsraCT	190.50	
IsraSU5	6171	-1.0
Isras1	7084	-2.0
Isras	22539	-10.0
Jaysour1	243	-2.5
Jordan	343	-10.0
LiskC1	85.00	-1.2
LsanuWW1	1.00	
Lsanus	271	
LWatuS	203	-5.1
Lsrair1	403	-5.2
MalibuC		
MalibuC2	108.50	
Malibu1	848	-1.7
MarLasC	228	-0.4
MarLasC2	95.00	
MarLasW3	171.50	-10.2
Mirrav	8438	
Mishmat	357	-1.5
MTM	2888	-0.2
NeotAviv	2888	-4.8
Nr	3913	-4.0
Nesiha	883	-3.0
Rogovin1L	1152	-3.0
RogovinS	1178	
Rotem	370	-10.4
Salamis1		
Sasom	285	-2.6
Shaked	534	-5.0
Tyatlev	748	-5.0

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Ibi2	1404	
Acherut1	1024	
Acherut2	982	
AfikrC	480	-0.7
Amiga	130997	-1.0
Arzot	7083	
Atz bCB	283	-1.0
CbiW3	1788	
Clal50	6276	-4.0
DankorC	1830.00	-0.7
Danlon1	2525	
Elem	3077	0.3
Emdn	383	
ExpanC6	238	-0.8
EroC1	384	-15.0
Hilon	388	-2.5
HlonWW	1888	-1.1
Hirons	7677	-0.5
Ical	1719	
IDC5	17900	-2.2
JosiC1	1620.00	-1.5
KorC1A	1840.00	-0.5
Kordan1	885	
KordanG2		
Klal	810	-0.6
Magal1	2250	-10.0
Magn5	2258	-0.6
Mdatel	880	0.5
OclC1	118.00	-0.7
OclW1	2000	-22.2
Olar	7111	-10.6
Perus0.1	883	-0.6
Rim1	455	-0.2
Rivhs	2824	-0.9
SelanDev	2188	-2.6
Securite	2248	-1.9
SecurisC	124.50	-0.4
SecurisW	888	-12.0
SHPANHASP	840	
TeyC	318	-0.3
TeuC1	173.50	
TeuShrw	79.00	-2.5
TeuW3	10.60	
Unico	4575	

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
IsramcoN	14.60	-10.0
IsrCorp1	23483	-2.2
IsrCorp5	22894	-2.0
IsrChem	207	-3.5
IDB	1018	-2.2
IDBDev	59507	-1.0
ILDC	1090	-2.5
JEC	923	-3.7
JOEL	195	-10.0
Kardan5	391	-8.5
Kitan	1084	-3.7
Kilil	2255	-1.7
Koor	19236	-2.7
Leumi	283	-3.2
LeumiW2	2.1	0.2
Lifshiz1	288	
Malhosh	1482	-2.7
Melibu5	808	-3.0
Maman	788	-3.2
Maritt	1932	-10.0
Mashov	495	-8.7
Mehadrin	11373	-8.2
MelrEzra	3823	-10.0
Mivtah	1092	-9.0
Multilock	1893	-1.2
MGN5	7127	0.7
MLL1	353	-7.2
NatoliDS	30.2	-10.0
Ocif	6273	-4.2
Ormat	889	-6.0
Osem	1637	-1.2
OsemW1		
PazoilEx	192.0	-7.2
Pecker	12296	-2.7
Pericles	2365	-2.7
Petrchem	634	-1.7
Pityon	10345	-9.0
PolgatB	486	-2.5
Poseidon	134.0	-10.0
Rogosin	3247	-8.0
SelaPump	139.0	-5.7
SuperstB	5404	-2.5
Tambour	728	-2.2
Tempo1	1151	-1.0
Teva	70004	-2.5
TevaC	389	-4.0
Tfahnval	420	-32.0
TAT5	330	-9.0
Urdan 0.	339	-6.5
Yaad	659	
Ytong	732	-3.5

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
Elron	972	-1.8
Elbit	881	-2.5
Elbit1	4081	4.4
Elbitrns	2402	-4.8
IsrBurass	2855	-2.9
mivnahs	778	0.3
mivnys	2439	
ndsatel	3228	-0.8
Tin	3841	-0.5
AtlanW1	1220	-3.0
Comtex	3258	-0.5
Dalia1	1850	-2.9
Danel	1121	0.3
Dan	1928	-3.0
Elbtech	5050	-5.1
Greenbay	780	-0.8
IDDHOT	1857	-1.9
Kind	2288	
Kopel	2307	-10.0
KopelC1	162.50	-4.1
MSPK	469	
Minet1	2281	-4.1
TransLin	1433	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
shoolign	217	
ladoorign	528	
Ipsen	1470	
marelvld	1188	
nisco	1145	-4.0
pityon	342	
reichert	1882	-10.0
techsm	814	-0.2
tolemar	1258	
vismotic	404	-1.0
zinomtal	1116	-5.0
AdamsInv1	283	0.7
Barsht1	1288	
Barsht5	883	-10.0
Brosh1	388	-2.0
Dadav	1938	-1.8
Elbam	225	-3.4
Gab	9210	-5.1
King1	1057	-1.0
LaMeh1	3301	-10.0
MissC1	182.00	-1.3
Mon1	281	-10.0
MLT	1404	
Neca	34484	
NecaG1	184.50	-1.3
Obolsk	800	
Ormit	217	
OrnitC	88.00	-8.9
OrtaFrnt	1403	-0.5
Polisk1	807	-5.0
Shikdov	185.00	-4.1
Tacto	811	-3.3
TfenW1		

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
darbon1	1105	-4.9
Ildar	704	-3.3
marathon	84.50	-2.9
Arkin	2057	-3.2
Blnyan	70225	-11.0
Blonson	1838	-1.5
Monger	187.00	-2.3
MivtaG1		
Optima	350	-2.1
Regent1	361	-1.4
Yisrom	94.50	-8.1

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
isramcon2	2.60	-10.7
DEDEx1	1947	-12.3
Naphtha	14.30	-18.8

Two-sided trading

Name	AFTERNOON Price	% Change	Volume Shares	MORNING Price	% Change	Volume Shares
buildipr	872	1.2		872	1.3	2994
nacional	1895	-4.7	62000	1890	-5.0	26849
walfson	95353	0.5	15	95353	0.5	184
Ablac	42.9	-10.0	580000	42.9	-10.1	1184540
Ackerfin	503	-3.0	92500	518	-0.2	10557
Adacom	50.0	2.2	143000	49.1		214175
Afris 0.	291120	-4.2	290	297961	-2.0	185
Afrisr	274105	-4.0	240	284812	-0.3	162
Agan	3785			3785		9480
Agis	7767	-1.7	6600	7798		8008
Aryt	540	-3.0	8000	557		12979
Avner	9.6	-24.5	2755000	12.7		
Azorim	3646	-0.5	19800	3664		6795
ALPM	12648	-1.2	3420	12648	-1.2	1808
Bezek	505	-3.0	693000	498	-4.2	240405
Boulo	221	-3.0	90000	228		47800
Cables	1488	-0.5	5000	1495		16575
Clal Com	14421	-2.2	550	14495	-1.7	953
Clal Ele	30733	-3.0	7800	30495	-3.7	1210
Clal Tra	880	-4.7	37200	874	-3.2	68229
Clal 10	7834	-0.5	65000	7894	-1.0	9827
Clalins	1604	-3.5	141600	1662		8500
Clalstr 5	1847	-0.5	1400	1856		5100
Clinds	1748	-1.5	194400	1753	-1.2	58004
CohenDev	582	-8.0	10000	586	-8.4	14718
Danbar 5	2198	0.5	3500	2208	1.0	3052
Dead Sea	983	-6.0	64800	985	-6.7	63122
Delek	7584	-2.5	62100	7789		10437
Discinv	20385	-3.0	16660	20910	-0.5	5780
Elbit	16357	-3.2	4160	16927	-0.2	3954
Elco	7375	-2.0	3750	7526		4600
Elite 5	1366	-0.5	219000	1373		48960
Elron	9397	-3.5	8700	9543	-2.0	5717
Evergr n	1825	-3.5	22500	1853	-2.0	10478
Export	1472	-0.2	3000	1475		18100
Fibi	37032	-7.5	1280	37233	-7.0	2575
Formula	1311	-9.2	800	1304	-9.8	5294
Frstint1	28065	-5.0	4200	27474	-7.0	1327
Frstint5	27075	-5.0	1820	28571	-7.7	1233
Frutarom	702	-0.7	35000	707		43510
Gahelet	5583	-3.2	1800	5808	-3.0	3713
Granit	494	-1.2	32000	500		6870
Haposlm	294	-3.7	780000	298	-3.0	148059
Hapolm	8287	-9.2	11400	9338	-8.5	4387
IndBldg	358	-2.0	680000	365		140748
IndDevBK	25347	-9.2	500	25487	-8.8	528
Isramco	14.6	-10.0	17360000	14.6	-9.9	8894740
IsrCorp1	23483	-2.2	7920	24144	0.5	3049
IsrCorp5	22894	-2.0	2660	23381		2406
IsChem	207	-3.5	1297000	205	-4.2	340660
IDB	1018	-2.2	231200	1020	-2.0	68030
IDBDev	59507	-1.0	6300	60108		1952
ILDC	1090	-2.5	108000	1090	-2.5	76027
JEC	923	-3.7	41800	921	-4.0	8959
JOEL	195	-10.0	584000	198	-8.1	162465
Kardan5	391	-8.5	72500	388	-8.9	28583
Kitan	1084	-3.7	28000	1120	-1.5	42174
Kilil	2255	-1.7	800	2266	-1.3	600
Koor	19236	-2.7	18900	19384	-2.0	5882
Leumi	283	-3.2	510000	287	-2.0	295373
LeumiW2	2.1	0.2	2700000	2.1		2878759
Lifshiz1	288			288		28280
Malhosh	1482	-2.7	60000	1524		29486
Melibu5	808	-3.0	8000	827		10010
Maman	788	-3.2	12000	788	-2.0	14755
Maritt	1932	-10.0	21700	1932	-10.0	31088
Mashov	495	-8.7	6800	493	-10.0	10863
Mehadrin	11373	-8.2	600	11404	-8.0	2891
MelrEzra	3823	-10.0	23400	3823	-10.0	10453
Mivtah	1092	-9.0	12000	1113	-7.3	5475
Multilock	1893	-1.2	3000	1897	-1.0	14275
MGN5	7127	0.7	180	7145	1.0	4125
MLL1	353	-7.2		353	-7.3	31216
NatoliDS	30.2	-10.0	125000	30.2	-10.1	
Ocif	6273	-4.2	200	6288	-4.0	2798
Ormat	889	-6.0	129800	879	-8.7	64357
Osem	1637	-1.2	13200	1658		47445
OsemW1						
PazoilEx	192.0	-7.2	168000	188.5	-8.9	55509
Pecker	12296	-2.7	6240	12707	0.5	1087
Pericles	2365	-2.7	29700	2383	-2.0	6236
Petrchem	634	-1.7	45000	645		30325
Pityon	10345	-9.0	1440	10345	-9.0	3627
PolgatB	486	-2.5	180000	477		48898
Poseidon	134.0	-10.0	232000	143.0	-4.0	49181
Rogosin	3247	-8.0	3500	3247	-8.0	7692
SelaPump	139.0	-5.7	460000	147.0	-0.3	232233
SuperstB	5404	-2.5	16000	5480	-1.5	4152
Tamboue	728	-2.2	27500	719	-3.5	9998
Tempo1	1151	-1.0	13200	1160	-0.3	17340
Teva	70004	-2.5	4350	70184	-2.2	1370
TevaC	389	-4.0		389	-4.0	13166
Tfahnval	420	-32.0	12500	618		
TAT5	330	-9.0	70000	334	-8.0	50407
Urdan 0.	339	-6.5		339	-6.6	38985

Beth Hatefutsoth
the Diaspora Museum
is saddened by the death of
DORIS MORRISON
We extend our deepest sympathies to
Andy, Charles and family

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and JDC-Israel
mourn the death of
DORIS MORRISON
and extend their deepest sympathy
to Elaine Winik and Andrea Bronfman

The World Family of Keren Hayesod – United Israel Appeal
records with profound sorrow the passing of
DORIS MORRISON
devoted Jewish leader and benefactor
and expresses heartfelt sympathy and sincere condolences to
Andrea and Charles Bronfman, Kappy Flanders
and to the entire bereaved family
Julia Koschitzky, Chair, World Board of Trustees
Shlomo Hillel, World Chairman
Moshe Gur, Director General

The World Zionist Organization — **The Jewish Agency for Israel**
We extend our sincerest condolences to
Andrea and Charles Bronfman
on the passing of
DORIS MORRISON
May her memory be a blessing to all of Israel.
Yehiel Leket, Acting Chairman of the Executive
Mendel Kaplan, Chairman, Board of Governors

THE FEDERATION/CJA OF MONTREAL, CANADA
is deeply saddened by the passing of
DORIS MORRISON
and expresses sincere sympathy to
Andy, Charles, Kappy,
the grandchildren and family
LESTER LAZARUS, President
STEVEN DRYSDALE, Executive Vice President

WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM
extends condolences to the family of
DORIS MORRISON
"Strength and Dignity are her Clothing"
Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch

THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION
expresses sincere sympathy
to Andrea and Charles Bronfman, Kappy Flanders, Elaine and Norman Winik, Muriel Koeppel Slomke and family on the passing of
DORIS MORRISON
a dear friend

The world is less bright...
May her memory inspire us all
DORIS (Sissy) MORRISON
Marcia, Renée, Monique and family

To Andy and Charles Bronfman, Kappy Flanders and the entire family
We express our sincere condolences and share your grief on the passing of
DORIS MORRISON
Seagram Israel
Arale Lebenat

Russia brokers Yemen ceasefire

MOSCOW (Reuter) – The Kremlin, former Marxist patron of south Yemen, yesterday threw its weight behind international efforts to halt the bloodshed in the Yemen conflict by brokering a new ceasefire – at least the eighth.

The agreement, for an open-ended ceasefire to come into force at midnight Yemen time, was signed in Moscow by Foreign Minister Muhammad Salem Basendwa, representing the northern Yemenese forces, and Salim Mohammad, envoy from the south.

President Boris Yeltsin, in a message read out by Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, hailed the agreement as "an important first step to end the fratricidal conflict".

He urged the two sides to work to strengthen the ceasefire, elaborate a mechanism to ensure it held and start a dialogue for settling their problems.

Kozyrev himself, who acted as mediator, said he hoped the new agreement would help stop the "fratricidal killing" in Yemen and boost Russian peace efforts in the Middle East generally.

Even as the document was being signed in Moscow there was renewed fighting in Aden after a Red Cross-arranged two-day truce collapsed after only five hours.

Southern vice-president Abdel-Rahman Ali al-Jifri said he had ordered his forces to counter-attack after what he called repeated provocation by northerners in violation of the ceasefire.

The latest attempt at a limited ceasefire had been the longest to hold since civil war erupted on May 4, sweeping aside what remained of an uneasy four-year union between former Marxist South Yemen and conservative North Yemen.

During the Soviet era, Moscow armed and financed southern Yemen, a counter-weight to Western influence in the region.

But since the outbreak of civil war, Russia, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, has maintained a low profile while insisting the question should be solved in line with UN resolutions.

To a reporter's suggestion that the move had been undertaken merely to boost Moscow's world profile, Kozyrev declared the ceasefire would above all benefit Yemenis and Yemen.

But the new move formed part of a pattern of foreign policy initiatives by the Kremlin apparently aimed at raising Moscow's international standing which has declined with the end of the Cold War.

Under pressure from nationalists to seek a policy line distinct from that of Washington and help restore some former superpower grandeur, the Kremlin launched initiatives in Bosnia and the Middle East.

The Bosnian initiative had at least initial success, but Moscow's efforts in the Middle East and Korea have been largely ignored by the West or overtaken by events.

S. Africa troops help flood victims

CAPE TOWN (Reuter) – South African troops deployed yesterday to help victims of Cape Town's flood disaster and shore up battered homes after 12 days of fierce winter storms.

President Nelson Mandela declared parts of the Western Cape province a disaster area after touring the city's shantytowns, wading through a reeking sludge of mud and sewage to visit families living in collapsing shacks of cardboard and old plastic sacks.

Army spokeswoman Hanlie van der Merwe said two training units were on standby to respond to decisions by a multi-departmental meeting at the provincial government headquarters in Cape Town.

"We're just waiting to hear where they want us," she said.

Van der Merwe said a unit was at work in Delft, where 24 houses collapsed and about 150 were seriously damaged in gales.

"They're mainly filling sandbags to stabilise roofs and moving furniture for people who're evacuating their houses," she said.

Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool said he was meeting central and provincial leaders to draw up a relief program.

"Our ongoing relief operation is continuing, but we're looking at other immediate priorities like blankets and food and essential medicines," he said.

Mandela's seven-week-old government this week faced multiple challenges with Cape Town's worst-ever oil-pollution crisis and other problems.

Bush fires devastated huge tracts of forest, croplands and grazing in the Eastern Cape and Northern Transvaal provinces.

Transport Minister Mac Maharaj told the Senate in a debate on the pollution crisis that South Africa would try to make the owners of the Chinese bulk carrier Apollo Sea pay the bill for the oil cleanup, estimated at five million rand ($1.4 million) so far.

The 131,000-tonne vessel sank with all 36 crewmembers off Cape Town on the first day of the storm on June 20 and officials said the oil coating Cape Town's beaches and islands was from the ship.

Volunteers said they had rescued about 10,000 endangered Jackass penguins from the oily seas, but more than 400 had died of shock and exposure.

A Cape Town civil defense spokeswoman said a small amount of oil was still leaking from the ship yesterday. A pollution control vessel was using chemicals to break up the slick.

The Royal Yacht Britannia passes under Tower Bridge, at the beginning of centenary celebrations of the bridge which take place this weekend. (AP)

UN hopes to extend Bosnia truce agreement

SARAJEVO (AP) – UN officials said yesterday they hope to extend a Bosnia cease-fire accord due to expire next week, even though persistent fighting has made a mockery of it.

The month-long cease-fire, which runs out July 8, was supposed to create a favorable atmosphere for talks on an overall peace settlement.

Instead, international mediators have been meeting without the warring Bosnian factions against a backdrop of increased fighting in northern Bosnia and attacks on UN peacekeepers.

A UN spokeswoman in Sarajevo, Claire Grimes, said officials still were hopeful of extending the cease-fire. She said that could provide more time to get the two sides together to negotiate a longer-term agreement.

UN military officials conceded, however, that there has been no letup in the recent violence that has marred the truce.

Cmdr. Eric Chaperon, a UN spokesman, reported yesterday that there was more fighting in north-central Bosnia, where the Moslem-led government army has made some recent gains against Bonsian Serb forces.

He also said UN peacekeepers had come under fire three times in the Sarajevo area during the previous 24 hours. There were no casualties, but one helicopter was damaged.

A British soldier was killed Sunday in Gorazde, southeast of Sarajevo. UN officials have complained of increasing fire on their troops in Bosnia, but they say it is difficult to determine in most cases which side is to blame.

As the fighting continued, the so-called contact team of Russian, American and Western European envoys began explaining terms of their latest peace proposal to key players in the conflict.

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said the team's Russian member, Alexei Nikiforov, met yesterday with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. It was not known whether Bosnian Serb leaders were present.

The international meadiators are proposing a take-it-or-leave-it settlement that would give 49 percent of Bosnia to the Serbs and 51 percent to a new Moslem-Croat federation.

The Moslems and Croats say 51 pecent is not enough. The Serbs say they cannot give up the territory that their foes demand.

Foreign ministers from the contact group countries are nonetheless expected to endorse the plan next week and present it to a summit of the Group of Seven industrialized states and Russia scheduled for July 8 in Naples, Italy.

Bosnia's minority Serbs launched the war in April 1992 when they rebelled against a Moslem-Croat vote to secede from Yugoslavia. Supported by neighboring Serbia, they won control of 70 percent of Bosnia. An estimated 200,000 people are dead or missing.

Many cease-fires have failed to curb the fighting, and it was unclear how the United Nations proposed to negotiate an extension of this one. Almost none of the current cease-fire's terms have been carried out.

Airbus crashes during test, crew killed

TOULOUSE (AP) – An Airbus A330 passenger plane undergoing tests crashed yesterday shortly after takeoff from the Toulouse airport, killing all the crew members on board, authorities said.

There were conflicting reports about the number of crew members. The regional rescue service said there were five, Airbus said there were seven.

The plane crashed in an uninhabited area just beyond the end of the runway. The cause was not immediately known.

Airbus jets are assembled at an Aerospatiale SA facility near the Toulouse airport, and Airbus Industrie's headquarters are nearby.

The A330 is a two-engine, long-distance airliner which was introduced in November 1992, with a capacity ranging from 295 to 440 passengers depending on seating configuration.

Five of the wide-bodied planes are in commercial service, three with France's Air Inter and two with Ireland's Aer Lingus. Orders for 118 more have been placed by 14 airlines, according to Airbus, a consortium of French, German, British and Spanish aerospace companies.

It is the world's No. 2 commercial aircraft manufacturer after the Boeing Co. of the United States.

O.J. hearing plays nationwide

LOS ANGELES (AP) – Under the glare of television cameras, prosecutors aimed to convince a judge yesterday that football legend O.J. Simpson should be tried on charges of killing his ex-wife and her friend.

Millions of Americans were tuned in to the nationally-televised preliminary hearing beginning at 9 a.m. In a process that is expected to last about a week, prosecutors will present the evidence that led them to charge Simpson in the stabbing deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and Ronald Goldman, 25.

Simpson, a Hall of Fame football star, television sports commentator, comic actor and ad pitchman, is the most famous American in recent memory to be charged with murder. The bizarre way the case has unfolded – Simpson at first cooperated with police, then fled, then threatened suicide and led police on a televised slow-speed chase through the freeways of Los Angeles – has made the story the most hotly discussed topic in the United States, easily eclipsing the World Cup.

All four major televison networks – ABC, CBS, NBC and CNN – planned to carry yesterday's hearing live, preempting popular soap operas and Wimbledon tennis matches.

An estimated 95 million viewers watched Simpson's June 17 flight from police.

At the hearing, the defense is expected to try to sow a seed of reasonable doubt about Simpson's guilt.

Municipal Court Judge Kathleen Kennedy-Powell will decide whether there is enough evidence to try Simpson, 46, on two counts of first-degree murder.

There are no known eyewitnesses. Media reports, some unconfirmed, suggest that prosecutors have a circumstantial case that relies on evidence such as strands of hair, a ski cap and pair of gloves and bloodstains.

UN: Rwandan massacres were pre-planned acts of genocide

GENEVA (AP) – The massacres that have swept Rwanda were a pre-planned and systematically coordinated campaign of ethnic genocide by the Hutu-dominated government, and those responsible should face war crimes trials, a UN report said yesterday.

The human rights report by special investigator Rene Degni-Segui put the blame for the massacres that have killed hundreds of thousands of Rwandans clearly on the Hutu-led government and armed forces.

It was the most damning indictment to date by the United Nations of the Rwandan interim government.

It also marked the first time an official UN report supported what many observers on the spot believed – that the death of Rwanda's Hutu president in a mysterious plane crash April 6 was an excuse for, but not the cause of, the ethnic bloodletting.

Degni-Segui, dean of the law faculty at Abidjan University in the Ivory Coast, said conservative estimates put the death toll from the "genocide" at between 200,000 and 500,000 people. But he said observers in Rwanda believed the actual death toll could be as high as 1 million. Rwanda's population is about 8 million.

"It is uncertain whether we will ever know the number of victims," Degni-Segui said. "But what is certain is that the international community is assisting in a human tragedy which seems to have been well orchestrated."

He said international war crimes charges should be brought against those responsible for the massacres.

The report said the hate campaign by state-controlled radio, the distribution last year of weapons to civilians and militiamen, and intense training for militiamen between last November and March all pointed to the fact that the slaughter was planned before the April plane crash.

Most of those slaughtered were members of the minority Tutsi ethnic group or moderate Hutus.

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of
Rabbi Dr. CHAIM ISIDOR DANISHEFSKY ז"ל
Prof. of Biochemistry at N.Y. Medical College,
Son of Rabbi Jacob Danishefsky,
late Chief Rabbi of Bayonne, N.J.
and extend condolences to his
Wife, **Malka**; Son, **Kenny** and family; Daughter, **Avis**
The *aron* will arrive on El-Al flight #018, approx. 10:40 a.m. today, **FUNERAL** at Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh, Y.U. Section, approx. 1 1/2 hrs. after arrival. SHIVA-Motza'ei Shabbat only, until 10:00 p.m. at the home of Rabbi Moshe and Ramah Finkel, 2 Derech Hahoresh, Ramot 02, Jerusalem.
Details: Moshe and Devorah Gershinsky, Tel. 02-630527

The shloshim of
DAVID FRANK ז"ל
will be commemorated on Thursday, July 7, at 11 a.m., at the Nes Harim Cemetery.

The unveiling of the tombstone of
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GERMAN COLONY, delightful, well-designed, 5 + study, lofts, roof garden. Corrinne Davar ☎ 02-733385. 015139

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RAMOT B, VILLA, 2-family, 240 sq.m. built, 500 sq.m. plot, $500,000. 02-867718. 015504

NEAR THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 4, large rooms, Shabbat elevator. Exclusive to "Lidor" 02-256317-8. 015503

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SHAAREI-CHESED, UNDER construction, *400 meters, magnificent residence,* patio, parking, basement, view. Ambassador. ☎ 02-618101. 015705

SHAAREI-CHESED, UNDER construction, *400 meters, magnificent residence,* patio, parking, basement, view. Ambassador. ☎ 02-618101. 015706

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RAMOT BET, *cottage, 6 1/2," American* kitchen, view, spacious, excellent condition parking, desirable location, extras, $390,000. 02-862654. 015748

MEVASSERET GIMMEL, villa, 5 + 3, for renovation, large garden, storage room, $370,000. Anglo-Saxon (Maldan) ☎ 02-251161. 015753

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WANTED IMMEDIATELY: 2 or 3 room unfurnished apartment in Ramat Eshkol or French Hill, no or very few steps,adjacent to commercial center. ☎ 02-973735 (NS). 015195

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IN THE HEART of Jerusalem, beautiful, time sharing, 2 weeks in November. PO BOX 866 Givat Ram. 015468

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BUSINESS OFFERS

BUS. PREMISES

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OFFICE STAFF

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, English/Hebrew at mother tongue level, typing. ☎ 02-256512. 015364

QUALITY SECRETARY, English/Hebrew, command of Word-Perfect, full time position. ☎ 02-256511. 015366

JEWELRY FACTORY SEEKS senior secretary, mother-tongue English + Hebrew. ☎ 02-735811. 015368

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BUSINESS MAN requires personal assistant - part-time - Hebrew/English - general duties - no typing or computer. ☎ 02-422293. 015746

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DOMESTIC help, 1-2 mornings per week. ☎ 02-638352 (NS). 015442

AU PAIR FOR SUMMER vacation in *France.* 02-863073, not Shabbat. 015710

FILIPINA WORKER, light help for invalid lady, live-in, comfortable conditions. 02-781911. 015742

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COUNSELOR (F)for dormitory of post high school religious girls. Experienced preferred. ☎ 02-931823. 015726

GENERAL

RAFFLES hairdressing salon requires part-time English/Hebrew speaking receptionist. 02-248536. 015561

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF RELIGIOUS Zionist students seeks director. Send C.V.: P.O.B. 7256, Jerusalem. 015630

STORAGE

EITAN STORAGE - Car - Furniture - Personal archives - Secure - Best rates. ☎ 02-519111. 009531

PURCHASE/SALE

FOR SALE

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC MATTRESS + box spring, excellent. 02-788239, eves (NS). 015702

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE (all wood): beds with spring mattresses, kitchen utensils, *miscellaneous. 02-722908, evenings.* 015703

HANDCRAFTED dining table, two leaves, 6 chairs at Antique. ☎ 02-716332 (NIS 4,000). 015721

PERSONALS

PERSONAL

PLEASANT, attractive, 1.82 m², observant, European, divorced +, owns apartment, has steady job, 48, interestedin Ashkenazic woman *from South Africa, good qualities.* P.O.B. 2147 Netanya. 015339

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PASSPORT

CYPRUS DUTY-FREE CARS: Selling, repurchasing, storage, shipping. Problems? Davidson. ☎ 02-420234. 008525

TEL AVIV

DWELLINGS

RENTALS

DUBNOV, TEL AVIV, JUNE, 3 1/2 ROOMS, huge, central heating, good condition. 03-6960228/9. 015256

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BEAUTIFUL 1.5 room apartment, next to Kikar Atarim in Tel Aviv. For tourists!! Tel. 03-5221369, 03-5038539. 015654

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BEAUTIFUL holiday apartments, tourists-/businessmen, short/long term. Dynami. Tel. 03-5468003. Fax. 03-5469667. 000007

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SALES

RAMAT AVIV, close to university, charming 2.5 room apartment, 1st floor. Tel. 03-6415922. 015472

2 APARTMENT HOTEL, near the sea and the Hilton, $250,000. Anglo Saxon Tel. 03-5467722 (Maldan) 015481

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MIGDAL DIZENGOFF 4 beautiful, 16th floor, 130 sqm. ☎ 03-6420995 (evenings) 015494

MAGNIFICENT, brand new all marble, 3+1+roof, sea view, parking, $490,000. Tel. 03-751882, 03-5252272. 015661

NORTH TEL AVIV, in luxury building, 3 bedrooms, doorman, swimming pool, sea view. Neot Shiran ☎ 03-5756383. 015709

RAMAT AVIV, 3 rooms, 88 sq.m., renovated, 3rd floor, flexible occupancy. 03-6417719. 015709

HOLIDAY APTS.

RENTAL OPPORTUNITY
private holiday apartment in Havat Ha-Baron in Zichron Ya'akov. ☎ 06-396518. 015220

FOR SALE, 2.5 furnished, in apartment hotel Colony Beach, Bat Yam, facing the sea + health club. ☎ 03-9686740. 015645

BEAUTIFUL HOLIDAY APARTMENTS, tourists/businessmen, short/long term. Dynami Tel. 03-5468003, Fax: 03-5469667. 015712

SERVICES

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HEBREW STUDIES "Holyland" - intensive course in Tel Aviv July 1994. ☎ 03-6415062. 015328

HEBREW CENTER - intensive private lessons. All languages. Psychometric preparations. TA: 03-6918787; Jlm: 02-253616. 015554

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HAUTE COUTURE SEAMSTRESS needed for exclusive fashion studio. ☎ 03-5848735! 015458

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OFFICE STAFF

IMMEDIATE!!! Ashdod/Tel Aviv, English secretaries + wordprocessing. Tigbur ☎ 08-531624, 03-295706/7. 015394

FLUENT English/ German secretary. 8:30-14:30 including Fridays. ☎ 03-5485723, 03-5175814. 015619

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

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	Shabbat begins	Shabbat ends
Jerusalem	7:11 p.m.	8:32 p.m.
Tel Aviv	7:29 p.m.	8:34 p.m.
Haifa	7:23 p.m.	8:36 p.m.
Beersheba	7:26 p.m.	8:24 p.m.
Eilat	7:22 p.m.	8:27 p.m.

Tora portion: *Pinhas*

JERUSALEM

MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Minha 6:30. Sat. Shaharit 8:30. Minha 6:50. Shiur 7:15. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Hanagid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 6:30, Shabbat morning: 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM

REDEEMER CHURCH, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 894750, 281049.

BAPTIST CONGREGATION, 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem. Saturday Bible study 9:00 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Tel. 255942.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shivtei Yisrael. 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Tel. 02-717988.

KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY, YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun. Tel. 02-828964.

TEL AVIV

IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran), Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 820654. Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

HAIFA

BEIT ELIAHU (Evangelical Messianic Congregation) Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Tel. 04-523581. Sat. service 11 a.m.

OTHER CENTERS

BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

ART GUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II. 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. The Story of Masada◇Alessi - For the Sake of Use◇Photography at the Bauhaus-◇Weissenhofsiedlung, a modal neighborhood◇ David Reeb: Paintings 1982-94◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇Jewish Artists in Europe between the Wars◇Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇*Sculpture◇20th Cent. Modern* Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Video: Bill Viola, The Reflecting Pool (collected work).

HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. Bill Viola: Unseen Images, 7 video installations. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155.

HAIFA

Museums

THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael◇Temp. Exh.: Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period◇Impressionism and the Jewish *School of Paris (works by Modligniani,* Monet, Pissaro, Soutine, Struk and others). Oswald Adler, Oil Paintings, Watercolors and Graphic Works◇"Purity Broke Out in Israel" - Stone Vessels of the late Second Temple period. Open Sun.-Thur. 10-4; Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2. ADMISSION FREE.

WHERE TO GO

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JERUSALEM

Conducted Tours

Tourists and Visitors. Come and see the **General Israel Orphans Home for Girls,** Jerusalem, its manifold activities, and impressively modern buildings. Free guided tours weekdays, 9-12. Bus no. 14, 24 or 6, Kiryat Moshe. ☎ 523291.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of our installations, call Jerusalem 619222; Tel Aviv 5233154. Hours: 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.

TEL AVIV

Conducted Tours

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, July 1

Jerusalem: Arnona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Sde Dov, 3 Hausner, Tochnit Lamed, 6992518; Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 5224717.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Kfar Sava, 45 Ben-Gurion, Kfar Sava, 951265.
Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 352484.
Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Modi'in, *Kiryat Motzkin,* 7077703.
Haifa: Magen David, 13 Geula, 625205.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, July 2

Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 731475; (day and evening) Balsam, *Salah e-Din,* 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Shlomo Hamelech, 78 Shlomo Hamelech, 5246461; Bavli, 1 Uziel, cnr. Toledano, 6040552. (evening, till midnight) Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 6413730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: (day) Bar-Ilan, 29 *Bar-Ilan, Ra'anana,* 443579; (evening) Medicstore, 24 Tchernichowsky, Kfar Sava, 457034.
Netanya: Clal Pharm, 60 Sd. Binyamin, 338091.
Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Modi'in, Kiryat Motzkin, 7077703.
Haifa: Massada, 30 Mass.da, 6655806.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 10 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Friday, July 1

Jerusalem: Hadassah Mt. Scopus (internal, obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Hadasssah Ein Kerem (pediatrics); Bikur Holim (ENT). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal), Ichilov (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, July 2

Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (internal, ENT); Shaare Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics, pediatrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (ophthalmology). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. *In Tiberias dial 92444,* Kiryat Shmona 4444.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FLIGHTS

24 Hours Flight Information Services: Call 03-9712484 (multi-line), Arrivals Only (Taped Message) 03-9351111 (20 lines) or English 03-9712484.

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod *551333	Jerusalem *523133
Ashkelon 551333	Kiron 9311111
Bat Yam *5511111	Kiryat Shmona *944334
Beersheba *274767	Naharlya *823333
Carmiel *988555	Netanya *823333
Dan Region *5793333	Petah Tikva *9311111
Eilat 372333	Rehovot *451333
Hadera *322333	Rishon LeZion *9482333
Haifa *512233	Safed 920333
Hatzor 920333	Tel Aviv *5480111
Holon *5511111	Tiberias *790111

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Eran – Emotional First Aid. Tel. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (childrenyouth 03-261113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 418111, Netanya 053-625110, Carmiel 988410; Kfar Sava 913999.

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Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Firday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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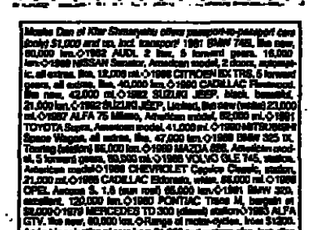

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Syria to buy 250 tanks from Slovakia

BEIRUT (AP) – Syria has concluded a deal with Slovakia for 250 advanced battle tanks to upgrade its military might amid stalled peace negotiations with Israel, the leftist newspaper *as-Safir* reported yesterday.

The pro-Syrian Beirut daily quoted unnamed Western diplomatic sources in Damascus as saying the deal was signed during a recent visit to the Syrian capital by Slovakia's Foreign Minister Eduard Kukan.

As-Safir did not say how much money was involved but noted the deal capped similar arms-buying agreements concluded lately with Russia, China, North Korea and India.

The new contract probably is an extension of previous agreements concluded by Syrian President Hafez Assad's government with Czechoslovakia for the purchase of T-72 battle tanks just before the former Soviet satellite broke into two independent states. *as-Safir* said.

It quoted its Western sources as saying the Syrian drive was motivated by Assad's conviction that Israel was deliberately obstructing progress in the US-sponsored peace talks.

"Israel is arming with conventional and nuclear weapons to its teeth," *as-Safir* quoted one of the Damascus-based sources as saying.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset foreign affairs and defense committee Tuesday that Syria had dramatically increased its purchase of tanks and mobile artillery in recent months.

Rabin had warned last week of war with Syria within three to seven years if peace was not reached. His statements drew angry Syrian retorts.

"They are a blatant attempt to falsify facts, blow the peace process and escalate tension" in the Middle East, said the government-published Syrian newspaper *Tishrin*.

Another state-owned Damascus daily, *al-Thawra*, charged Rabin "has a premeditated intention to derail the peace process and to replace it with secret and unilateral deals."

'Hamas terror attacks likely during Arafat visit'

ALON PINKAS

WHILE the army and the police continued their preparations for the visit of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, security officials yesterday warned that anti-Arafat and anti-peace process Palestinians like Hamas and the rejectionist fronts are likely to launch terror attacks against Jews and Palestinians to disrupt Arafat's visit.

The security officials said that they have intelligence indicating that the anti-Arafat elements plan to attack in Gush Katif, but that there is also the possibility of attacks in Judea and Samaria.

They added that some of those elements may attack Palestinians to portray a divided Palestinian street as the visit takes place.

The officials participated in a meeting at the Defense Ministry yesterday morning, convened by Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and by Brig.-Gen. Yom-Tov Samiya, security coordinator for the visit.

The sources initially said that Arafat's decision to arrive on Saturday would allow for more time to prepare and possibly preempt those attacks, but during the day Arafat changed his arrival date to today, at Israel's request.

Deputy Chief of the General Staff Maj.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said yesterday that Arafat is supposed to head the Palestinian Authority and run the lives of the people in Gaza and Jericho.

"He cannot run affairs by remote control, which is why he is coming here and why he may eventually reside in Gaza or Jericho," said Lipkin-Shahak.

The General Security Service and the army are closely cooperating with the Palestinian police and with "Force 17," Arafat's personal security unit, officials who arrived to prepare the visit. The "Force 17" people arrived in Gaza on Wednesday.

DEMOS

(Continued from Page One)

brought to the Prime Minister's Office to keep the protesters from getting close.

The heads of the the Council of Jewish Communities were the first ones who waded into the traffic at the city's entrance. Although they said beforehand they feared "preventive arrests," this did not transpire. The council released a statement, however, saying that Domb's arrest was intended to "shut him up."

Protesters carried signs reading, "To divide the Land is to divide the people," chanted "Death to Arafat" and sang "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem."

A number of haredi yeshiva students from the nearby neighborhood of Givat Shaul stood on a ledge near the intersection and watched the action. At one point, one of the protesters asked them why they did not join in, to which one of the haredim answered, "I didn't see you last week with us trying to block Rehov Bar-Ilan."

Settlement activists were meeting late last night to finalize the protest schedule for today, and were expecting hundreds of families to camp out over Shabbat near the Prime Minister's Office. *Bill Hutman contributed to this report.*

TA residents want collaborators out of their neighborhood

RAINE MARCUS

AROUND 100 residents of Tel Aviv's Shapira neighborhood took to the streets last night protesting against collaborators living in the neighborhood.

One such collaborator is suspected of axing to death 30-year-old David Mishali to redeem himself in the eyes of terror organizations and to enable him to return to his native Gaza. Police are still hunting for him, and both collaborators and residents voiced their fears this week that such murders may recur.

Collaborators living in Tel Aviv complained bitterly this week that the Ministry of Defense is not doing enough to help them with their basic needs. Those employed do manual odd jobs but most turn to petty crime to support their wives and families.

Police and residents are now afraid that last weeks killing may not be the last in the city.

Scores of collaborators who in the past worked for the IDF and secret services over the Green Line live in poor neighborhoods in the southern part of the city, in appalling conditions.

BATTLE

(Continued from Page 2)

government of Israel and not of the PLO."

The Likud was taken aback by Rabin's decision to indefinitely postpone a meeting with Likud MKs scheduled for next week. The meeting had been requested by the Likud to press for a joint policy on Jerusalem. Rabin had first agreed to the meeting but yesterday informed the Likud that his schedule was too full. No new date had been set. The Likud views this as a punitive measure by Rabin for the demonstrations by the opposition parties this weekend.

Beirut to free seized ship with Israeli goods

BEIRUT (Reuter) – Lebanese authorities promised to release a Cypriot ship seized at Beirut port last year with Israeli goods on board, officials said.

They said the decision was reached after discussions in Beirut between Foreign Minister Faris Bouez with an envoy of the Cypriot foreign ministry, ambassador Sotos Zachios.

Zachios also held talks with Justice Minister Bahij Tabbara over the issue of the ship, Fassily Bay, which docked in Beirut harbour last year carrying a shipment of Israeli salt.

Lebanon and Israel are still officially in a state of war since 1948 despite a little less than three years of peace talks between them.

Zachios also discussed with Bouez preparations for a visit by Cypriot Foreign Minister Alecos Michaelides to Beirut due to start on August 23.

DERI

(Continued from Page One)

proven in court."

The witnesses in the case will therefore start testifying on September 1, as planned.

The court also ruled yesterday on several requests by Avi-Yitzhak to receive additional information from the prosecution.

Most of the requests were settled by agreement, after the court hinted that it would like the prosecution to consent. Thus, for instance, Deri will now receive all the material from police investigations which did not result in an indictment, as well the material relating to a second draft indictment that accuses him of illegal transfers of funds when he was interior minister.

The defense hopes to use this material to support its claim that the police were out to get Deri by any method.

The court rejected some of Avi-Yitzhak's requests, however, deciding that documents such as the police's contract with private investigators overseas, or their letter asking for aid from the attorney-general's office in New York, did not constitute part of the relevant evidential material.

Avi-Yitzhak also asked to be allowed to listen to segments that were removed from the tapes he received, which the prosecution claimed could not be considered part of the investigation material, since it consisted of private conversations among the police investigators. The court did not accede to this request, but said it was willing to look at transcripts of the missing parts itself to ensure that no relevant material had been deleted.

The four defendants – Deri and Shas activists Yom Tov Rubin and Arye and Moshe Weinberg – were also supposed to state how they pleaded to the charges yesterday. However, the court granted their request to be allowed to submit the pleas in writing instead, on July 14.

SHABBAT

(Continued from Page 2)

Bakshi-Doron, in his letter to Tibi, wrote, "I request that you turn to Mr. Yasser Arafat in my name and the name of all observant Jews, and request that he does not hold his visit on Shabbat. The visit on Shabbat will necessitate that tens of thousands of police and soldiers will have to work on Shabbat and will cause a mass desecration of the Shabbat."

Bakshi-Doron wrote that "one of the first conditions of peace is mutual respect and the respect of the values and holy places of all religions. In Israel the sanctity of Shabbat is a supreme value, and he should understand that his visit damages that value."

After Arafat's visit was officially moved up, Bakshi-Doron issued a statement that read: "I am pleased that Yasser Arafat answered our call and has taken into consideration the feelings of the Jewish people."

The chief rabbi said he was told by Tibi that Arafat "will not visit Jericho or any other place on Shabbat in order to prevent the need to call thousands of soldiers and policemen to work on Shabbat."

Bakshi-Doron also called on the Israeli public not to demonstrate on Shabbat, saying "There is no [halachic] permission to demonstrate on Shabbat."

Yehiel Leiter, spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said the whole issue was a "public relations stunt" orchestrated by the government.

"He was going to come on Friday from the start," Leiter said. "This is all a ploy to make him look like someone who takes into consideration Jewish sensibilities. It is part of the government's attempt to purify this murderer."

While Bakshi-Doron said it is not permissible to demonstrate against Arafat on Shabbat, former chief rabbi Shlomo Goren said that if Arafat "dares to come to Jerusalem, it is permitted to desecrate Shabbat in order to prevent his entering and defiling Jerusalem."

But if Arafat remains in Jericho or Gaza, Goren said, it is not permissible to desecrate Shabbat to demonstrate since "for all intents and purposes these are not our territories."

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High Court allows consulate marriages

HAIM SHAPIRO

IN a decision which could affect thousands of immigrants from the former Soviet Union, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday that a consular marriage is valid in Israel as long as one of the partners in the marriage is a citizen of the country which the consulate represents.

The petition to recognize the marriage was submitted by the Reform Movement's Israel Religious Action Committee (IRAC) on behalf of Uri and Eva Goldstein, who came to Israel from Brazil.

Uri Goldstein subsequently became an Israeli, but the couple was unable to marry in Israel because the bride was not Jewish. When they were married by the Brazilian consul here in November 1990, the Interior Ministry refused to recognized the marriage as valid.

Later, Eva Goldstein converted to Judaism in a rabbinical court of the Reform Movement. (The Interior Ministry also refused to recognize the conversion, and the IRAC submitted a petition in this matter also, upon which the High Court has not yet ruled.)

According to the IRAC, the right of consuls to marry their citizens had been provided for by the British Mandatory authorities, but the Interior Ministry, because of its religious orientation, refused to accept this principle. Attorney Uzi Fogelman, representing the State Attorney, had argued that the British High Commissioner had exceeded his authority in this matter, and that the right to consular marriage only existed when neither of the parties was an Israeli citizen.

IRAC Director Amir Shaham described the court's decision as "yet another breakthrough in destroying the Orthodox monopoly." He said the decision was particularly important for the thousands of couples from Russia who were unable to marry in Israel because of the obstinacy of the rabbinate.

Shaham said that dozens of couples had tried to marry in the Russian consulate in Tel Aviv, but the Interior Ministry had refused to recognize their marriages. These marriages now fall under the conditions of the High Court's decision, thus providing a partial solution to the problems of personal status of many immigrants.

Navratilova, Martinez reach finals

WIMBLEDON (AP) – Martina Navratilova moved within one victory of her 10th Wimbledon title yesterday when she beat Gigi Fernandez 6-4, 7-6 (8-6) in the semifinals.

Navratilova's opponent in tomorrow's championship match will be third-seeded Conchita Martinez, who outlasted Lori McNeil 3-6, 6-2, 10-8 to reach her first Grand Slam final.

The 37-year-old Navratilova, playing in her 22nd and final Wimbledon, saved two set points in the second set to hold off her friend and practice partner in an entertaining match on Center Court.

Live on Channel 2

Channel 2 is broadcasting the women's final live tomorrow at 4 p.m.

"I wanted one more chance and I'm there," said Navratilova, back in the finals for the 11th time and the first time since 1990. "This is what I dreamed about. This is what I wanted – to go out in style. Win or lose, I'll be going out in style. I'm going to enjoy the moment."

The fourth-seeded Navratilova looked sharp in all aspects of her grass-court game – serve and volley, returns and passing shots – as she beat Fernandez for the eighth time in eight matches.

"I played well enough, I didn't play great," said Navratilova, who hit 14 serve return winners. "I made the shots when I had to. I just hung in there."

So did Martinez, who needed 2 hours, 34 minutes to subdue McNeil. After Martinez broke for a 9-8 lead in the third set with an overhead, she served out the match at 15 – ripping a cross-court backhand passing shot to end the contest.

Navratilova and Fernandez are close friends and neighbors in Aspen, Colorado, and both clearly enjoyed themselves on Center Court, smiling and laughing throughout the match.

Fernandez, a doubles specialist who was the lowest ranked player (No. 99) in the Open era to reach the semifinals of a Grand Slam event, relished the moment and smiled continuously – even after losing points.

AGELESS WONDER – Martina Navratilova stretches for a shot during her victory yesterday at Wimbledon's Center Court. (AP)

For awhile, it looked like Navratilova might win in a rout as she took the first eight points for a 2-0 lead.

"I was going, 'Oh, no. Please let me win a point,'" Fernandez said.

She did win the next game, but Navratilova moved out to a 5-1 lead, hitting a series of passing shot returns past a lunging Fernandez.

Fernandez settled down and won three straight games, but Navratilova then served out the set.

Fernandez picked up her game another notch in the second set, keeping Navratilova under pressure and going up a break at 4-2 – winning on her seventh break point in a game that went to deuce eight times.

Serving at 5-3, Fernandez got to set point — but she blew a simple forehand volley, hitting it into the net. Navratilova broke with a running backhand pass, and a few games later the two headed into the tiebreaker.

Navratilova was up 5-2, but Fernandez won four straight points to earn another set point at 6-5. This time, Navratilova cracked a backhand return down the line.

The men's semifinals are set for Friday: Pete Sampras vs. Todd Martin, and Boris Becker vs. Goran Ivanisevic.

Even though Becker is back in the Wimbledon semifinals for the eighth time in his career, it's his conduct – not his serve and volley – which is getting all the attention.

The three-time champion, who has always cultivated a positive image at Wimbledon, is having to defend himself against accusations of cheating, gamesmanship and unsportsmanlike behavior.

"I want to make one thing clear – I don't like what's going on for the past two or three days," Becker said. "I'm doing the same thing for the past 10 years. All of a sudden, this is not supposed to be fair play. I'm within the rules ... Maybe the main reason why they speak up is because they lost."

'Prisoner died from lack of medical attention'

AN inmate told a Haifa Magistrates Court judge yesterday that a duty officer refused a fellow prisoner's request for a doctor the night he died in Kishon Regional Lock-up.

"If the medic had been there, the dead man might have lived," Avraham Asraf told Judge Hanoch Shiloni, who is investigating the death of Yom Tov Manshrov, of Kiryat Bialik.

Manshrov was found dead on the morning of June 3 after being placed in solitary confinement in the lock-up, near Yagur. The police then requested the investigation.

Asraf said Manshrov had told him he was a drug addict, and he appeared to be having withdrawal symptoms shortly before he died. "He asked to have a doctor or medic sent to his cell because he didn't feel well. The duty officer refused his request," Asraf said.

Manshrov was remanded by Haifa Magistrates Court for 15 days on May 22 after stabbing his mother and his sister, and was sent for psychiatric observation after a policeman claimed he was a danger to himself and to the public.

Manshrov had been hospitalized previously at the Tirat Carmel Psychiatric Hospital.

When Asraf, himself a former addict who is serving time for drug offenses and whose job it was to clean Manshrov's cell, heard the case was being investigated, he asked to testify and Shiloni agreed to the request. Manshrov's body was taken to the Abu Kabir Forensics Institute for an autopsy, but no cause of death had been released as of Wednesday.

Asraf told Shiloni that Manshrov "was like a dead body" on the night in question, and when he asked the duty officer to summon a doctor or medic, explaining that Manshrov was shivering, he was told "it's none of your business – get back to your room."

Shiloni ordered police to take testimony from the duty officer mentioned by Asraf. The court will resume its investigation after completion of the autopsy. (Itim)

Dead Sea Scrolls exhibited at Vatican

ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

AN exhibition of Dead Sea Scrolls mounted by Israel opened last night in the Vatican, lending resonance to the recent establishment of diplomatic relations between Jerusalem and the Holy See.

Some 1,000 invited guests attended the opening of the high-profile cultural display, among them Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein, senior clerics of the Roman Catholic Church, Italian Jewish community leaders and representatives of Israel's Antiquities Authority, which mounted the exhibition.

Given the history of relations between the church and the Jews over the past two millennia, the opening of the first Israeli exhibit ever bosted by the Vatican carried a special emotional charge.

On display are 12 Dead Sea Scrolls, including the most recent scroll to be published, MMT (see article in today's magazine). Also shown are 88 other objects found at Qumran, including pottery, wooden combs and a leather sandal.

In addition to the material provided by Israel, the Vatican added material from its own collection of rare Hebrew manuscripts.

The exhibition, which will be on display for three months, was mounted in the frescoed Sistine Salon adjacent to the library's main reading room. Curators were Ruth Peled and Ayala Sussman of the Antiquities Authority, and the designer was Dorit Harel.

An Antiquities Authority official, Jacob Fisch, said this week that the Vatican had responded with exceptional swiftness when queried last year by the authority about its willingness to provide a venue for a traveling exhibition of scrolls that was shown last year in Washington, New York and San Francisco.

Plan may mean extra year of mandatory schooling

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Council for Higher Education said yesterday that an extra year's study would be mandatory if the Knesset approves a proposed bill by MK Silvan Shalom to allow all pupils with bagrut certificates to study for one year at the universities.

Accepting such a large number of students would require at least NIS 250 million annually, to say nothing of building costs for additional classroom space and facilities, council director Guri Zilka said.

According to Shalom's proposal, the universities would decide after the first year whether or not the student could continue.

Earlier, Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said that Shalom's suggestion to copy the French model was impractical. France is used in education circles as a bad example of universal university education for high-school graduates, he said.

Hebrew University President Hanoch Guttfreund said yesterday that it was not enough to judge a student's ability on the basis of the bagrut and that the psychometric exams were necessary for judging aptitude.

Weizman pardons rehabilitated drug addict

BATSHEVA TSUR

DESPITE his avowed intention of dealing strictly with drug addicts, President Ezer Weizman yesterday pardoned a former addict who was rehabilitated.

Yiftah Shihrur was sentenced to 26 months' imprisonment for earlier offenses despite the fact that he had gone through rehabilitation in the meantime.

Following the court ruling, he wrote to Weizman telling him that he was now serving as a counselor for youth in distress and was studying at the university. Shihrur said in his letter that he had been an addict since the age of 16. "But I went to the Malchishu'a rehabilitation center in 1991 and after a year I was clean. I haven't used drugs since," Shihrur said.

"I felt as if I had just been born when I came out. My whole world view changed." He said he was now a role model for other juvenile delinquents. "It is the greatest pleasure in life to be able to help save them," Shihrur said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gasoline prices increase

The price of gasoline rose at midnight, with 96 and 95 octane gas up 3.5 percent. A liter of 96 octane now costs NIS 2.10, up from NIS 2.03, while a liter of 95 octane unleaded gas costs NIS 2.06, up from NIS 1.99.

Light fuel for industry was up 3.7 percent, as was heavy fuel for industry and the Electric Corp., while the price of kerosene was up 4.2 percent.

Stopover leads to divorce

A 31-year-old Israeli woman now living in New Caledonia took an unusual detour during a stopover here on her way to the Far East – to a Beersheba rabbinical court.

Julie Ben-Shitrit was taken to the court by police after her husband, Michel, alerted the authorities. He married her eight years ago and has been trying for years to gain a religious divorce from her after she left the country shortly after the wedding and went back to her parents' home in France.

Michel acted on a tip that she would be here to change planes. A shocked Ben-Shitrit spent several hours in the court, signed the divorce document, and returned to the airport to try to find another connection to the Far East. *Amir Rozenblit*

Police crack Beersheba region heroin ring

Police arrested seven men and seven women Wednesday cracking a major drug ring in the Beersheba region which was responsible for supplying large quantities of heroin to the Tel Aviv region.

Police confiscated about 160 grams of heroin, good for 1,600 doses, along with an M-16 rifle, ammunition and about NIS 10,000 in cash. *Amir Rozenblit*

Agency political heads to be abolished

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE position of political heads of the Jewish Agency will be abolished, effective in 1997. This was officially decided at yesterday's closing session of the Jewish Agency Assembly in Jerusalem, in accordance with the wishes of the fund-raisers from abroad.

The issue had been resolved earlier at closed-door sessions of the Committee of Six, which represents the agency heads and the fund-raisers.

Instead of the political appointees, the departments – Aliya, Aliyat Hanoar and Settlement – will be headed by professionals, but the corresponding committees of the Board of Governors will have joint chairmen, one from the board and the other from the WZO.

The assembly also decided to cut manpower at the World Zionist Organization by 20 percent over the next four years.

The board will increase in size from the current 74 members to 120, and the assembly from 398 to 518 members. In this way, sectors that were previously not represented such as industry, economy and local council heads, will have a voice in the partnership between Israel and the Diaspora, the delegates said in their resolution.

Baseball star dies, football star booked, and Americans sink the Bismarck

WHATTA WEEK!

JOE HOFFMAN

MARVELOUS Marv Throneberry died of cancer at the age of 60. The Mets first baseman epitomized the *schlemiel* of baseball, the guy who could blow a game in ways other people could only dream about.

His most famous gaffe: After hitting a triple, the fielding team appealed that he hadn't touched second base. After the second-base ump called him out, an enraged Casey Stengel rushed out to protest. He was gently intercepted by the first base *umpire, who told the hapless Mets manager, "Re*lax, Casey, he didn't touch first either."

KANSAS City Chiefs wide receiver Tim Barnett was arrested for exposing himself in a hotel room to a 14-year-old maid and booked for second degree assault. A few years ago, such an incident would have drawn scoffs that "it's no big deal," that he "didn't beat up anbody," that he was "just showing off, etc."

His recent criminal history, however, shows he was sentenced to a 10-day prison sentence in January for assault and battery against his wife.

Your Honor, throw the book at him for this one, and spare us a 911 call in the future.

AT the Berlin Olympics in 1936, Jesse Owens, a black American, became an international hero by beating the Germans and putting the lie to "Aryan" supremacy. At Wimbledon 58 years later, two black Americans – Lori McNeil and Bryan Shelton – knocked off Germans Steffi Graf and Michael Stich and nobody batted an eyelash. *That's* progress.

Tartabull's 10th-inning blast sends Yankees to eighth-straight win

BOSTON (AP) – Danny Tartabull, who had struck out in his three previous at-bats, homered leading off the 10th inning to give the New York Yankees their eighth straight victory.

Tartabull hit the third pitch from reliever Jeff Russell (0-5) into the Red Sox bullpen in right field for his 14th homer, sending Boston to its 12th straight home loss.

Pinch-hitter Wes Chamberlain had driven in the tying run in the ninth with a groundout as the Red Sox sent the game into extra innings. But Steve Howe (1-0) got out of a jam in the ninth when left fielder Luis Polonia ran down Scott Fletcher's drive to deep left with two outs and a runner on second.

Jim Leyritz had a two-run homer and three RBIs for the Yankees.

New York starter Scott Kamieniecki allowed two runs on two hits in eight innings to outpitch Roger Clemens, who allowed three runs and four hits in eight innings, striking out 10.

Blue Jays 5, Brewers 0

Pat Hentgen pitched a three-hitter and Randy Knorr homered as the Blue Jays snapped a 10-game losing streak at Milwaukee.

Hentgen (9-5) allowed a double and single to No. 9 hitter Jose Valentin and a ninth-inning single to Jody Reed in posting his third career shutout and second this season.

Hentgen walked three and struck out three in halting the Blue Jays' longest losing skid since 1981, when they dropped 12 straight.

Orioles 7, Indians 6 (10 innings)

Chris Sabo singled home the winning run in the 10th inning as the Orioles strung together three straight two-out hits for the road victory.

Baltimore won for the fifth time in its last six games, all on the road, and improved its league-leading road record to 24-13. Cleveland has lost four of five at Jacobs Field since setting a team mark with 18 straight home victories.

The Indians lost for only the second time in 10 extra-inning games this year, including a 6-1 mark at home. Baltimore is 3-2 in extra innings.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Astros 3, Reds 1

Kevin Bass and Jeff Bagwell both homered in the eighth as the host Astros won.

Bagwell broke an 0-for-7 slump by hitting his 25th home run with one out. Ken Caminiti singled to center and Bass followed with his third home run of the year.

Reds reliever Chuck McElroy (1-2) took the loss. Jose Rijo had pitched a five-hit shutout through seven innings with seven strikeouts.

Houston reliever Dave Veres (3-3), got the final two outs of the eighth. Rookie John Hudek got the final three outs for his 12th save in 12 opportunities.

The Reds scored in the sixth as Barry Larkin led off with a walk, stole second, moved to third on Hal Morris' single and scored on a double-play ball by Kevin Mitchell.

Braves 6, Expos 2

John Smoltz allowed three hits over eight innings and homered and Bill Pecota knocked in three runs as Atlanta ended a four-game losing streak with an away victory.

Smoltz (6-7), coming off an eight-game suspension for hitting New York's John Cangelosi on May 14, gave up only a leadoff single to Marquis Grissom, pitcher Butch Henry's one-out single in the fifth and Sean Berry's pinch-double in the eighth.

Greg McMichael pitched the ninth and allowed an RBI groundout by Cliff Floyd.

Smoltz, who struck out seven and allowed one unearned run, hit his third career homer leading off the third against Henry (4-1).

Bill Pecota had an RBI double in the fourth, and doubled home two runs to make it 4-1 in the sixth. David Justice completed the scoring with a two-run double in the seventh.

Dodgers 6, Giants 2

Ramon Martinez pitched a five-hitter – giving up a record-setting homer to Matt Williams – and doubled twice for the host Dodgers.

Williams broke Willie Stargell's NL record for home runs before July with a solo shot of Martinez in the fourth inning.

Williams drove a 2-1 pitch to left field with two outs and the bases empty in the fourth inning for his 29th homer and sixth in eight games.

Martinez (7-4) went the distance for the third time, after lasting only 5⅓ innings in each of his previous two starts – both defeats. He struck out five and walked one.

William VanLandingham (3-1) took the loss.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	47	28	.627	–
Montreal	46	30	.605	1½
Philadelphia	39	38	.506	9
Florida	36	41	.468	12
New York	33	43	.434	14½
Central Division				
Cincinnati	44	32	.579	–
Houston	42	35	.545	2½
St. Louis	38	36	.514	5
Pittsburgh	37	38	.493	6½
Chicago	32	42	.432	11
West Division				
Los Angeles	40	37	.519	–
Colorado	36	42	.462	4½
San Francisco	33	45	.423	7½
San Diego	31	47	.397	9½

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	47	27	.635	–
Baltimore	43	32	.573	4½
Boston	37	36	.493	10½
Detroit	36	39	.480	11½
Toronto	32	43	.427	15½
Central Division				
Cleveland	43	30	.589	–
Chicago	42	32	.568	1½
Kansas City	40	36	.526	4½
Minnesota	39	36	.520	5
Milwaukee	36	40	.474	8½
West Division				
Texas	35	40	.467	–
Seattle	33	44	.429	3
California	33	46	.418	4
Oakland	32	45	.416	4

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Philadelphia 5, Florida 2
Atlanta 6, Montreal 2
Houston 3, Cincinnati 1
St. Louis at New York (ppd.)
Chicago 6, Pittsburgh 5
San Diego 10, Colorado 4
Los Angeles 6, San Francisco 2

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Oakland 1, California 0
Toronto 5, Milwaukee 0
New York 4, Boston 3 (10 innings)
Chicago 7, Kansas City 6
Baltimore 7, Cleveland 6 (10 innings)
Texas 11, Minnesota 10
Seattle 9, Detroit 4

The sad, similar fate of Gooden, Strawberry

NEW YORK (AP) – The year was 1986. Dwight Gooden was 21, Darryl Strawberry was 24. They were World Champions, best friends, and the leaders of baseball's newest dynasty – the New York Mets.

Eight years later, the young stars who brought life to a moribund franchise are both on their own losing streaks. There was no dynasty, no more titles and Gooden is now where Strawberry was three months ago – sidelined by a recurring addiction that could end his career.

Strawberry missed the first 2½ months of the season after admitting to a substance abuse problem. He signed with the San Francisco Giants on June 19 after a stay at the Betty Ford Clinic. Just nine days later, Gooden was suspended for 60 days after failing to follow his aftercare program for cocaine addiction.

"No question, they are both in serious trouble," said Mets executive vice president Joe McIlvaine, who's known both players for more than a decade.

Once, the answers were in Gooden's right arm and Strawberry's lefty swing. The Mets had suffered through six straight losing seasons when Strawberry arrived in May 1983. Gooden came the next year, posting a remarkable 58-19 record in his first three seasons.

The two never again achieved the heights of 1986. Gooden checked into the Smithers Center for treatment of cocaine addiction in 1987. Three years later, Strawberry was in the same facility for alcohol rehabilitation.

Although Strawberry left the Mets in 1990, his career stayed intertwined with Gooden's. Both were plagued by injuries in the last three years, and their statistics dropped off. Gooden never again won 24 games as he did in 1985. Strawberry's last monster year came in 1989, with 39 homers.

There was one difference – Gooden repaired his image and re-established himself as the cornerstone of the Mets. Strawberry's career was tarnished by a series of off-field incidents – a divorce, a paternity suit, allegations of wife-beating, an income tax investigation.

But in the end, the two were more alike than different when it came to their abuse problems.

Gooden was already facing a make-or-break season, coming off back-to-back losing years with his contract about to expire. Strawberry was a physical question mark with back problems before his substance abuse surfaced.

The Giants, desperate for an outfield bat, have offered Strawberry a shot at redemption. He isn't expected to play until after the All-Star game on July 12.

Gooden will probably be a free agent this off-season. But it may be too late for either to make up for lost time.

Maradona fails drug test, out of World Cup

IRVING, Texas (AP) – Diego Maradona was kicked out of the World Cup yesterday after a second drug test proved positive.

The 33-year-old Argentina soccer superstar, banned for 15 months in 1991 over the use of cocaine, tested positive for ephedrine, a common spray used for asthma, hay fever and nasal congestion but also a powerful stimulant.

Joseph Blatter, general secretary of FIFA, made the announcement of the suspension of soccer's most famous player at a raucous news conference.

The announcement came minutes after Argentina pulled Maradona from the World Cup team for fear of further sanctions.

Blatter said FIFA noted the move by the team to pull Maradona from the competition but suggested that would not avoid disciplinary action.

"FIFA will study disciplinary aspects of the situation after the World Cup. But Diego Maradona remains suspended from soccer and all official such activities, according to FIFA practice," Blatter said.

FIFA president Joao Havelange said he was disappointed to hear the news of Maradona's positive test.

"It is with great sadness that we have to say that Maradona is suspended and will not play," he said. "I was always hoping that the result would be different.

While the announcement was made by FIFA, Maradona stayed in his hotel bedroom in Dallas talking to his agent and personal trainer.

Outside some 50 Argentine fans stood chanting support for the star who led the team to a World Cup triumph in 1986.

Sources close to the Argentine team said Maradona was depressed and had declined to go to lunch with the other players. It was not known whether he would go to the game against Bulgaria played late last night.

Maradona, making his fourth appearance in the tournament, would have made a World Cup record 22 appearance if he had played against Bulgaria at the Cotton Bowl.

Pablo Abbatangelo, secretary of the Argentine Soccer Federation, told Radio Mitre of Buenos Aires said the decision to drop Maradona from the team was made even before hearing FIFA's decision "in order to avoid more serious sanctions."

The drug tests were administered following Argentina's June 25 victory over Nigeria in Foxboro, Massachusetts. Because only one player was found to have violated the drug policy, the result of the match stands, said Guillermo Caneda of Mexico, head of the FIFA World Cup organizing committee.

At a raucous news conference attended by more than 500 reporters, Blatter called the matter "a human, moral issue and not only a doping issue."

"You will be the judges of the competition and it is up to you to decide if the case of Maradona now found guilty of doping is a real harm to the competition or not," he said.

Ephedrine is a common nasal decongestant but acts on the body much like adrenalin, increasing blood pressure and heartbeat, and dilating the pupils of the eyes.

It's the same drug that caused American swimmer Rick DuMont to be stripped of a gold medal in the 1972 Olympics. DuMont argued he was taking ephedrine only under a doctor's prescription for a longstanding asthma condition.

In this case, ephedrine is sold over the counter in Argentina, AFA lawyer Agricol de Bianchetti said in Dallas, adding that it was "strictly a personal decision" by Maradona to take the drug. He expressed pessimism.

"Unfortunately FIFA takes into account the background of the player" when deciding on penalties, he said.

Maradona, in the midst of a spectacular World Cup comeback after cocaine almost wiped out his career, led Argentina to victories in its first two games, securing a spot in the second round.

This is not the first time Maradona has flunked a drug test, although the others involved more sinister substances.

He was banned from April 6, 1991, to June 30, 1992, by FIFA after testing positive for cocaine. He was tested after a game on March 17, 1991, while he was with Napoli of the Italian League. The ban was worldwide.

He has come back strong after losing 13 kilograms preparing for his fourth World Cup – he led Argentina to the championship in 1986 and into the final game four years ago.

There was no indication how FIFA might punish a player for failing a doping test. Sources, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said FIFA considered drug offenses "on a case-by-case basis."

FIFA has declined to join a worldwide effort to standardize drug punishment in sports sponsored by the International Olympic Committee.

That accord generally splits drugs into two groups – those such as caffeine, which can act as a stimulant if taken in large doses, and those such as anabolic steroids, which are taken only to boost performance.

Use of the first group generally would warrant a relatively light ban, as low as six months for a first offense. The second group would carry a longer ban – 2-4 years is the norm – for first offense and up to lifetime banishment for repeat offenders.

Two players have been banned by FIFA for positive dope tests at the World Cup.

In 1974, FIFA banned Ernest Jean-Joseph of Haiti from the competition, although team officials refused to send him home.

Four years later in Argentina, Scotland winger Willie Johnston tested positive for an illegal substance he used for medicinal purposes and he was sent home after playing one game.

TRIPPED UP – Diego Maradona is tripped up by Greece national team player Panaglotis Tsalouchidis as teammate Nikolaos Nioplias looks on in the Argentinian superstar's last World Cup match on Tuesday in Foxboro, Massachusetts. (AP)

What does the future hold now for Diego?

BOSTON (Reuter) - Who is the real Diego Maradona? – the confident, outspoken superstar at the top of his game or the doubt-ridden private man who sought solace in drugs?

Maradona's second incursion into doping – which yesterday ruled him out of the rest of the World Cup and brought a second suspension from soccer – has brought forward by some three weeks a decision about his future inside and outside the game.

Had he played out the World Cup to a glorious conclusion, he might have given serious consideration to offers from various clubs, including his favourite Boca Juniors.

Pressed on the subject of an alleged offer from Boca and a real one from Bolivar of Bolivia, he said earlier this week: "Let's go step by step. Right now I'm thinking about Argentina in the World Cup.

"I have a secure future with my two daughters and my wife," added Maradona, who will be 34 in October.

That may be all he has left, but it may not be enough for a man who has thrived on attention since his emergence as a 15-year-old ball genius in 1975.

Maradona, who wields inordinate power for a footballer, has often booted his problems into touch.

Lawyers, agents, even some football authorities and governments have protected him from his problems, allowing him to acquire the near-immunity and impunity of an untouchable.

His Naples lawyer Vincenzo Siniscalchi is dealing with a paternity suit dating back to 1986. Maradona pays an alleged $3,800 a month toward Diego Armando Jr., son of Cristiana Sinagra, and forgets about the problem.

He owes the Italian tax authorities an alleged $16 million.

He has not been back to Italy since his night flight from Rome in April 1991 after testing positive for cocaine in a routine test after an Italian league game for Napoli.

He is currently on trial in absentia in Italy for drug trafficking.

A suit filed by Argentine reporters after he fired at them with an air gun outside Buenos Aires in February has been brushed under the carpet by provincial Argentina authorities.

Maradona needs a huge income to handle his problems and the new ban will sever numerous publicity ties that emerged as he embarked on his latest World Cup adventure.

He lay low for the most part during his previous 15-month ban, occasionally returning to the limelight for celebrity five-a-side soccer games or showbiz television appearances.

His critics complained that the country seemed to hang on his every word, whatever the subject. Now he has played into the hands of those critics, who said he should not have been picked for the World Cup.

Otherwise, Maradona spent time with his family, while undergoing a drugs rehabilitation program and psychiatric sessions.

But the lure of the international stage was too strong for Maradona, unqualified for any other job, to resist and he has been there or thereabouts since his comeback with Sevilla in September 1992.

He has never expressed a serious interest in coaching, his only feasible means in the long term of escaping the specter of anonymity that probably haunts him.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Harding stripped of US national title

The US Figure Skating Association yesterday stripped Tonya Harding of the 1994 national championship she won after Nancy Kerrigan was attacked and banned Harding from the organization for life. The special five-member disciplinary panel appointed by the association concluded that Harding's actions surrounding the January 6 attack on Kerrigan at the national championship in Detroit "intentionally undermined the concept of sportsmanship and fair play embodied in the USFSA bylaws and rules and amateur sportsmanship in general."

The panel cited Harding's guilty plea to conspiracy to hinder prosecution in the investigation of the Kerrigan attack as well as other evidence "including her actions prior to the attack."

Junior lawn bowling team to play Scottish

A junior lawn bowling team has been selected to play singles matches against Scottish juniors in a historic two-test-match series in Aberdeen, Scotland on July 18. The team, comprised of all native-born Israelis (Yair Bekier, Amir Yaron, Roy Jennings, Michael Stange, Asaf Iron and Itsik Sher), will depart on July 6 to participate in a special knock-out tournament of 4,000 competitors in Edinburgh. The team will be managed by Israeli international Cecil Bransky, the current triples gold medalist, who will play in the Invitation Scottish Masters Singles.

Cowboys sign center Mark Stepnoski

The Dallas Cowboys signed Pro Bowl center Mark Stepnoski to a one-year, $1.2 million contract Wednesday, giving the club 10 returning offensive starters from last season's Super Bowl champions.

English County Championship scores

At Darlington: Surrey 236 in 81.4 overs. Durham 108-3 in 25.
At Leicester: Essex 218 in 82.2 overs. Leicestershire 107-2 in 24.
At Derby: Derbyshire 313-7 in 112 overs v. Middlesex.
At Bristol: Gloucestershire 33-0 in 15 overs v Glamorgan.
At Maidstone: Kent 377 in 102.5 overs. Yorkshire 11-0 in 4.
At Nottingham: Nottinghamshire 342-5 in 110 overs v. Northamptonshire.
At Taunton: Somerset 262-6 in 110 overs v. Worcestershire.
At Edgbaston: Lancashire 380-9 in 112 overs v. Warwickshire.

Colombia's example keeps Brazil concerned

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) – Two words, and Brazil's cockiness changes to concern.

Just say, "remember Colombia."

The stunning elimination of Colombia from the World Cup gave Brazil a much-needed reality check, coming on top of the rave press reviews for its first-round play.

It also helps Brazil stay focused for its elimination game on Monday with the United States – the team that drove the nail in Colombia's coffin.

"It sent an important message to Brazil. We can never vacillate," said goalkeeper Taffarel.

Not that Brazil isn't confident: This is, after all, the country of Pele. The team won three World Cups in 1958, 1962 and 1970, and is the oddsmakers' pick to win this one too.

Meanwhile, the USA team is still trying to prove it can run with the big boys. It has lost all its five matches against Brazil by a combined score of 20-3.

But with their upset of Colombia, the Americans have started to get some respect.

"It proves there are no naive teams left in soccer," said Brazilian captain Rai.

That is not lost on coach Carlos Alberto Parreira. He wants to avoid the swaggering overconfidence his team is prone to, an attitude fans call "Ja Ganhou" – We've Already Won.

"Only Brazil can beat Brazil," he warned.

The parallels between Brazil and Colombia are almost eerie.

World Cup at a Glance

(all times Israel)

Last night's scheduled games
D – Greece-Nigeria 02:35 (Foxboro)
D – Argentina-Bulgaria 02:35 (Dallas)
Today's games:
No games scheduled
Tomorrow's games
Germany vs. undetermined 20:05 (Chicago)
Switzerland-Spain 23:35 (Washington)

Atherton rescues England in third test crawl

MANCHESTER (Reuter) – Captain Mike Atherton batted all day for 96 not out to rescue England on a grinding opening day to the third and final test with New Zealand at Old Trafford yesterday.

At the close England had crawled to 199-4 after sessions of 68, 46 and 85.

Atherton was forced onto the defensive after leading batsmen Alec Stewart (24), Graham Gooch (out first ball), Robin Smith (13) and Graeme Hick (20) had all gone cheaply. All-rounder Craig White ended the day on 42 after figuring in an unbeaten stand of 95 with his captain.

Atherton slowly but surely turned the jeers into cheers at his home ground. He departed to a warm reception, unbeaten after six hours of steely determination.

But at one stage in mid-afternoon, a disappointing crowd of barely 8,000 showed their displeasure with bouts of slow hand-clapping and shouts of "boring, boring".

At least some of the criticism was aimed at New Zealand's bowlers, who drilled a repetitive line outside off stump.

But Atherton closed his ears to it all, got on with the job and steadily pulled England around.

It might have been altogether more attractive had Stewart stuck around instead of making a frustratingly early departure.

The Lord's century-maker was again at his dominant best, but this time only for 46 minutes. Five boundaries exploded off Stewart's bat – all of them at Michael Owens' expense – and it looked as though New Zealand were in for a mauling on a true pitch after losing the toss.

England's vice-captain paid the penalty for over-confidence. Trying to pull a delivery from Dion Nash that was a shade too wide and bounced a touch too high, he succeeded only in lobbing a simple catch to mid-on.

Nash, the Kiwis' second test hero with figures of 11 for 169, had stopped Stewart in his tracks. One ball later he was celebrating an even bigger success.

Gooch twice fell cheaply to the 22-year-old at Lord's, being dismissed for 13 and nought. This time, England's former captain was guilty of a firm-footed defensive push which deflected Nash's away-swinger to second slip.

Smith, surprised not to have been dropped after Lord's, survived Nash's hat-trick ball, but he seldom looked happy during his hour at the crease and played on to Owens just before lunch.

Like Smith, Hick would have been discarded this summer but for the patience of England's selectors. And, like Smith, the pressure of being continually under a microscope is all too obvious.

While Stewart and Gooch tried to get rid of their frustrations in the nets, Hick and Atherton ground out 36 runs in 24 overs.

Then Hick repeated Stewart's earlier mistake to gift Owens a second wicket through a skied pull to mid-on.

Trades take over NHL draft

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) – With all the good goaltenders available at the National Hockey League draft, the Detroit Red Wings came up with a dandy without making a pick.

They made a trade with the Calgary Flames, acquiring Mike Vernon for defenseman Steve Chiasson.

The straight-up swap was one of five player trades Wednesday as the draft wound up with the final nine rounds at the Hartford Civic Center.

The New York Islanders dealt defenseman Tom Kurvers to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks for left wing Troy Loney.

The Montreal Canadiens traded defenseman Kevin Haller to the Philadelphia Flyers for defenseman Yves Racine.

The Ducks traded defenseman Sean Hill and the 210th overall pick in the draft to the Ottawa Senators for the 55th pick.

And the Vancouver Canucks traded the 143rd overall pick to the Winnipeg Jets for defenseman Artur Oktyabrev.

The deals capped a busy two days at the draft in which 18 players traded uniforms and 286 players were selected by the 26 NHL teams.

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

12.00 Table tennis 13.00 Israel golf championship 13.30 Body building 14.15 (to be announced) 15.00 WWF 16.00 Bushido 17.00 Mondial 17.30 European soccer magazine 18.30 NBA finals highlights 22.00 Supercross 23.00 European soccer magazine

EUROSPORT

8.00 World Cup soccer news 10.00 World Cup soccer round-up 12.00 Mountain bike 13.00 Motorcycle magazine 13.30 World Cup soccer news 14.00 Live Formula 1 from France 15.00 World Cup soccer 17.00 Olympic magazine 18.00 Live Irish Open golf 19.00 Motorcycling magazine 19.30 Formula 1 round-up 20.30 Eurosport news 21.00 International motoring magazine 22.00 Formula 1 23.00 Athletics 00.30 Boxing 1.30 World Cup soccer 3.30 Eurosport

PRIME SPORT

6.00 Sailing magazine 7.00 Motor racing – Le Mans 24-hour race 8.00 Golf 11.00 Wimbledon women's semi-final 15.00 WWF 16.00 Asian soccer show 17.00 International sports magazine 17.30 NBA behind the scenes 18.00 Australian league rugby 19.00 Golf 21.00 WWF 22.00 Asian soccer show 23.00 Golf 2.00 Wimbledon men's semifinal

SATURDAY

CHANNEL 5

11.00 Mondial 11.30 European soccer magazine 12.30 Great moments in English league soccer 14.00 Beach volleyball 14.50 (to be announced) 15.40 World rugby 16.10 Supercross 17.00 WWF special 19.45 Bodybuilding 20.30 Ice skating 21.15 (to be announced) 21.45 Bushido

EUROSPORT

8.00 World Cup soccer news 12.00 Athletics 13.00 Boxing 14.00 Live Formula 1 from France 15.00 Jet skiing 16.00 Freestyle climbing 17.00 Live Tour de France 19.00 Golf 20.00 Live World Cup soccer 22.00 Formula 1 from France 23.00 Live World Cup soccer 1.30 World Cup soccer

PRIME SPORTS

8.00 Wimbledon men's semifinal 8.00 Golf 11.00 Wimbledon men's semifinal 17.00 WWF 18.00 European soccer show 19.00 Motorcycling 21.30 WWF 22.30 Golf 1.00 European soccer show 2.00 Wimbledon: women's final, men's doubles and women's doubles

Milwaukee selects Purdue's Glenn Robinson as overall No. 1 pick

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) – Glenn Robinson knows the pressure is on.

To nobody's surprise, he was the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft Wednesday night, and now he's expected to be both a superstar player and a Jordanesque personality.

"Everybody wants to be like Mike, but I'm not going to try to be like him," said Robinson, who takes his tremendous all-around game to the Milwaukee Bucks.

"I'm going to try to be myself. A lot of people say that the number one player is one of the best and I want to be considered one of the best."

The 2.03-meter forward from Purdue was unquestionably the best player in the nation last season, when he led NCAA Division I with a 30.3-point scoring average.

The Big Dog, as he's known, downplayed the big contract he will receive – possibly the first nine-digit deal in sports history.

"I don't think the millions have anything to do with playing," said Robinson, who scored at least 20 points in 52 of his 62 college games. "People are going to expect me to do more than I can. I'm not going to let that worry me."

Just as the Bucks' selection of Robinson was expected, the next several picks also went according to form.

The Dallas Mavericks, drafting second, went with California point guard Jason Kidd and the Detroit Pistons took Duke's do-everything forward, Grant Hill.

The Minnesota Timberwolves then selected Connecticut forward Donyell Marshall, the Washington Bullets drafted Michigan forward Juwan Howard, the Philadelphia 76ers picked Clemson forward-center Sharone Wright and the Los Angeles Clippers chose Kidd's Cal teammate, forward Lamond Murray.

Hill was the only senior among the first seven players selected. Three other underclassmen also went in the first round; the total of nine tied the record set in 1982.

Much of the night's excitement was devoted to rumors of a big trade involving the best players on the Chicago Bulls and Seattle SuperSonics – Scottie Pippen and Shawn Kemp. The trade didn't materialize, however.

Florida State's Charlie Ward, the Heisman Trophy quarterback who was passed over in April's NFL draft, was chosen by the New York Knicks with the second-to-last pick of the first round. The 6-2 point guard is considered a superb floor leader.

But Kidd was unquestionably the best point guard available. Kidd, 1.93 meters, led the nation in assists, holds California's record for steals and should start next to Jimmy Jackson in the Mavericks' backcourt.

"I want to be in the top five in the league in steals and assists and for the team to double its number of victories," Kidd said. "I think we can be a playoff team. That's a bold prediction, but I'm going to stick with it."

The Mavericks will need to more than double last year's 13 wins to make the playoffs. Dallas has been the NBA's worst team two years running.

While Robinson is being called the most complete player to come out of college since Larry Bird and Magic Johnson in 1979, Kidd is most often compared to Johnson.

Like Johnson, Kidd left college after his sophomore season. Like Johnson, Kidd seems to have a sixth sense when it comes to finding teammates with no-look passes. And like Johnson, Kidd joins the NBA with a reputation as a poor outside shooter.

"My idol is Magic and only Magic," Kidd said. "I've looked up to him and tried to follow in his footsteps. I know that's a hard thing to do, but I really patterned my game after Magic."

Detroit has gone quickly from championship contender to awful also-ran, but hopes the 2.03-meter Hill can help continue its rebuilding process.

"I don't feel any pressure," Hill said. "I'm just going to do what I've done all my life — play basketball and win. I ended up where I wanted to be, Detroit."

Marshall, 2.06 meters, had expected to go to Minnesota all along and was looking forward to playing alongside Hill's former Duke teammate, Christian Laettner. Marshall averaged 25.1 points last season and holds Connecticut's record for career blocked shots.

"With J.R. Rider and Christian Laettner, I am sure it will be fun to play with them," Marshall said. "They want to win."

First found picks

1. **Milwaukee** - Glenn Robinson, guard, Purdue
2. **Dallas** - Jason Kidd, guard, California
3. **Detroit** - Grant Hill, forward, Duke
4. **Minnesota** - Donyell Marshall, forward, Connecticut
5. **Washington** - Juwan Howard, center, Michigan
6. **Philadelphia** - Sharone Wright, center, Clemson
7. **Los Angeles Clippers** - Lamond Murray, forward, California
8. **Sacramento** - Brian Grant, forward, Xavier (Ohio)
9. **Boston** - Eric Montross, center, North Carolina
10. **LA Lakers** - Eddie Jones, guard, Temple
11. **Seattle** (from Char.) - Carlos Rogers, center, Tennessee State
12. **Miami** - Khalid Reeves, guard, Arizona
13. **Denver** - Jalen Rose, guard, Michigan
14. **New Jersey** – Yinka Dare, center, George Washington
15. **Indiana** - Eric Piatkowski, guard, Nebraska
16. **Golden State** (from Clev.) - Clifford Rozier, forward, Louisville
17. **Portland** – Aaron McKie, guard, Temple
18. **Milwaukee** (from Orlando) - Eric Mobley, forward, Pittsburgh
19. **Dallas** (from Golden State) - Tony Dumas, guard, Missouri-KC
20. **Philadelphia** (from Utah) - B.J. Tyler, guard, Texas
21. **Chicago** - Dickie Simpkins, forward, Providence
22. **San Antonio** - Bill Curley, forward, Boston College
23. **Phoenix** - Wesley Person, guard, Auburn
24. **New York** - Monty Williams, forward, Notre Dame
25. **LA Clippers** (from Atl.) - Greg Minor, for., Louisville
26. **NY** (from Hou. via Atl.) - Charlie Ward, guard, Florida St.
27. **Orlando** (from Sea. v. Clip.) - Brooks Thompson, g., Okl. St.

Jordan said nearly ready to quit baseball, return to Bulls

CHICAGO (AP) – Michael Jordan is nearly ready to give up baseball and return to the Chicago Bulls, the team he led to three straight NBA championships, a newspaper reported yesterday.

Jordan "has just about decided" to leave the Class AA Birmingham Barons when the season ends September 3 and rejoin the Bulls in time for the start of the basketball season in October, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported, citing an unidentified source.

Jordan was traveling with the Barons, a Chicago White Sox farm team, and could not be reached for comment. A spokeswoman for the Bulls denied Wednesday that Jordan's return was imminent, and a spokesman for the Barons said he doubted it, too.

"It goes against everything he's said all season," the Barons spokesman said.

Jordan considered announcing his intentions at the Class AA all-star game in Binghamton, New York on July 11, the *Sun-Times* reported, citing an unidentified source involved with the All-Star Game. But Jordan declined an invitation from Southern League president Jimmy Bragan to play in the game.

Bragan said he invited Jordan to play because he has boosted attendance across the league. Bragan said Jordan declined so he could spend more time with his family.

Jordan, a nine-time NBA all-star before retiring from basketball last year, is not posting all-star numbers in his new sport. He is hitting .197 with 26 RBIs, 29 walks and 73 strikeouts in 269 at-bats this season.

"This has been difficult for Michael," *the Sun-Times*' source said. "He's been so frustrated that his hitting hasn't clicked consistently, ... that he's letting down his teammates.

"Despite what anyone thinks, Michael always thinks about his team – no matter what team it is – first," the source said.

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Rabin, Zvilli to decide Haberfeld's future in Histadrut

MICHAL YUDELMAN

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Ram leader Haim Ramon came close to signing a coalition agreement in the Histadrut yesterday, with only the distribution of positions and the role of outgoing Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld once Ramon enters office still unresolved.

Rabin and Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli are to meet today or over the weekend to decide on the future of Haberfeld, head of Labor's Histadrut faction, whom Ramon and Ram leaders steadfastly refuse to see as part of the Histadrut's future leadership.

After the meeting in Rabin's bureau yesterday, Minister Yossi Sarid, of Ram, said: "Labor knows that Ramon as secretary-general and Haberfeld as his deputy would hinder Histadrut activity for the next four years. We don't think it's a good idea."

The prime minister reiterated Labor's stand yesterday that the party would not accept any blacklisting of Labor people by Ram, referring directly to Ram's objection to Haberfeld, whom Ramon sees as his arch-rival. Haberfeld once again failed to show up at the meeting in Rabin's bureau, after being hospitalized on Wednesday.

The joint committee of four – Ramon and Sarid on Ram's side, Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and Zvilli on Labor's – are due to meet today in an effort to settle the final problems surrounding job distribution.

Labor is adamant in demanding the trade union and organization sections, or, alternatively, the Histadrut treasury. Ram is demanding the trade union section and treasury for itself.

Zvilli said after yesterday's meeting in Rabin's bureau that significant progress had been made. It was agreed to maintain the Histadrut council, which Ram had demanded be abolished, and to reduce the Executive Committee from 375 to 121 members and the Executive Bureau from 42 to 23 members.

Ramon said yesterday he expects Labor's answers by Sunday at the latest, to be assured of this party's support in his nomination as secretary-general in the Histadrut convention next Tuesday. Otherwise there is no point in Ram's attending the convention, he said.

Ramon wishes to take over the post the day after the convention, but technically he must be elected by the new Executive Bureau, which is elected by the new Executive Committee.

The committee is in turn elected by the Histadrut council, which will be chosen by the convention next week.

Garbage piles up on Jerusalem's Shamai Street yesterday as municipal sanitation workers continued their sanctions. Only small amounts of the mountains of garbage filling city sidewalks have been removed, and alley cats, rats and insects have been swarming over the refuse. Mayor Ehud Olmert said yesterday afternoon the sanctions were illegal, and that the municipality would not bow to the workers' demands for major pay increases. Olmert said the city was prepared to appoint an arbitration panel to look into the workers' demands. (Brian Hendler)

Holon teacher penalized for endangering pupils' safety

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE director-general of the Education Ministry has decided to demote the deputy principal of the Katzenelson school in Holon for endangering the safety of pupils by driving a bus without a license.

Director-General Shimshon Shoshani also sent a warning to the deputy principal and another teacher who had been involved, saying that they would be dismissed from the civil service for any further violations of conduct.

Shoshani thus went beyond the recommendations of a committee set up to examine the incident, which had recommended that the teachers be reprimanded.

The incident came to light a few days ago when an eighth-grade pupil complained that he was being harassed by the teachers after his father complained about their behavior on the trip. The boy's father had accompanied the school trip to Eilat, and was on the bus when two teachers – who did not have licenses to drive buses – took some of the pupils for a ride in the desert while others went camel-riding.

The trip took place in March and the father did not complain immediately, but the facts came out during a talk with the principal of the school.

"I regard such behavior with the utmost gravity," Shoshani said yesterday of the two teachers. "To my regret, neither the parents nor the teachers complained to the principal or the Education Ministry."

Shoshani added he was demoting the deputy principal because she was in charge of safety but served as "a bad example."

Dutch court jails four Israeli family members

RAINE MARCUS

MEMBERS of an Israeli family convicted of laundering money for an international drug trafficking ring were imprisoned by a Dutch court this week.

Four members of the Eini family, originally of Rehovot, were jailed for money laundering – an offense which is not recognized by local law, but carries a maximum of five years imprisonment in Europe.

Ami and Menashe Eini were imprisoned for two years and fined 100,000 Dutch gilders; Zion Eini was imprisoned for eighteen months and fined 25,000 gilders; and Naji Eini was sentenced to nine months imprisonment.

The four were arrested last October, in an operation called "The Golden Calf," following the seizure of a ton of cocaine in the Russian port of St. Petersburg.

Several Israelis, who were assisted by Colombians and Russians, were arrested and jailed here for taking part in the large-scale international smuggling operation. The arrests came following a major investigation initiated by the Tel Aviv narcotics squad, with the cooperation of police forces in Europe and Russia.

The Eini family, which operated a chain of pizzerias, a restaurant and currency exchange offices in Amsterdam, is also suspected of financing smuggling operations.

Last October, Dutch police raided the Einis' homes and business premises and seized millions of dollars and property.

Concurrently, Tel Aviv police searched the homes of members of the Eini family living in Rehovot. The police then found local bank accounts containing millions of dollars made out to the name of the wife of one of the four living in Holland.

All the family's assets in Belgium, Holland and Israel subsequently were frozen.

The Dutch State Attorney's office is expected to decide within two weeks whether to indict family members on additional charges of money laundering connected with the smuggling of half a ton of hashish and several kilograms of heroin and amphetamines from Finland.

Police also said a prosecution witness had implicated the family's involvement in financing the smuggling of 650 kilograms of heroin seized in Antwerp in February 1992.

Shahak testifies in Tse'elim trial

ALON PINKAS

COMMAND and responsibility for the type of exercise in which five soldiers from the General Staff's elite commando unit were killed in November 1992 is a unique and complex issue, Deputy Chief of the General Staff Major-General Ammon Shahak said yesterday at the Tse'elim-2 trial.

Testifying before three military judges, and part of the time before representatives of the soldiers' families, Shahak analyzed the difficulties faced by planners of the exercise. He also explained the unique nature of the commando unit, including its specialized training methods and extraordinary missions and the high quality of its soldiers and officers.

Immediately after the accident, there were reports that the exercise was a dress rehearsal for a real attack to be executed in Lebanon. The IDF never confirmed those reports.

Shahak then explained details of the accident.

The judges are still hearing evidence before investigating the responsibility of a major and captain from the unit who are charged with negligence leading to death and the reckless use of weapons.

Meshulam to be allowed to have physiotherapy

RAINE MARCUS

UZI MESHULAM will be allowed to undergo physiotherapy five times a week, a Tel Aviv District Court judge ruled yesterday.

Meshulam petitioned the court last week to allow him to receive treatments for his leg and back, and to receive kosher food cooked by his family.

But Judge Arye Even-Ari concluded yesterday that food received in prison is sufficiently kosher for Meshulam and forbade him from receiving food from outside on a regular basis. But he did permit the prison rabbi to bring him canned goods and other provisions weekly from Bnei Brak.

Even-Ari rejected a request by Meshulam for 11 of his followers, currently in the Abu Kabir lockup, to join him in his prison.

"The petitioner can appeal regarding his own imprisonment but not regarding that of others," wrote Even-Ari. If incarcerated together, Meshulam and his group may be a "negative force," in jail, ruled Even-Ari. But Meshulam's lawyer Dror Makrin said he intends to appeal the decision.

Meshulam will pay for his treatments to include "physiotherapy, electric stimulation and massage to improve circulation." Meshulam was shot in the leg three years ago by a youth who threatened to commit suicide.

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FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1994

Peres: Jerusalem will not become another Berlin

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres talks to David Makovsky about quiet third-party contacts with Syria and plays down the visit of PLO leader Yasser Arafat

Peres: When the Lord gave birth to a problem, He also gave birth to an answer. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

ARAFAT'S VISIT

How would you advise Israelis to react to Yasser Arafat's visit this week? The visit is causing ferment.

They should be more relaxed. I don't know why everybody is making such a big deal. What is this – the Exodus from Egypt?

Do you see it as a historic moment?

The historic part began with the Oslo and Cairo agreements. This is just part of the implementation.

Do you understand why Palestinians are excited about such an occasion?

We are interested that they feel good and are happy. The success of autonomy is [a success for all of us].

Prime Minister Rabin has said Arafat, like every Moslem, can pray at the holy places in Jerusalem, even though it appears that it won't happen on this trip. What do you think?

He did not ask to come to Jerusalem now, so why do we have to raise it?

How do you react to those people, such as Rabbi Goren, who have called for Arafat's assassination?

The attorney-general has ruled not to take action [against Goren]. So we condemn [Goren's] position, time and again.

What do you expect to come out of your and the prime minister's meeting with Arafat next week at UNESCO?

We will talk about continuing negotiations. There are two options. One is to implement early empowerment and the other is to negotiate expanding autonomy to other parts of the territories.

Are they mutually exclusive?

No.

If the Palestinians do not agree to hold elections, is it fair to say that Israel will not feel itself obligated to redeploy the IDF from Arab population centers throughout the territories in the next few months?

We don't make it a condition. It is an option.

Can the IDF redeploy out of Hebron while the settlers remain?

When the Lord gave birth to a problem, He also gave birth to an answer. There are many options, and I don't want to get into the negotiations before they begin.

What do you say to those settlers who are worried about their future and believe you don't understand their fears?

I say to them that they must also be fair. We negotiated an agreement in which all the settlements remain where they are. Did the Likud achieve this? Compare our negotiation to that of the Sinai. We had a more complicated negotiation. What do they want? They don't accuse [us because] of what we are doing, but ... what they think we will do. It's a [premature] condemnation.

Should the municipal borders of Jerusalem be adjusted inward or outward?

No. Not in either direction.

Some believe this political constellation of Labor-Meretz may not return after the next election, so you may find it in your interest to accelerate final-status talks on the disposition of territory. You have recently said publicly that this government has only 12 months of work ahead before the pre-election jockeying begins.

I would say accelerate the second stage of self-rule, move forward on Jordan, and move ahead with Syria.

But what about moving ahead on final status with the Palestinians?

No, final status may become a final conflict.

Are you hinting there might be a two-part final-status agreement, where Israel solves what is possible, but defers the unsolvable to at least a later date?

Yes, we could reach a situation where we agree on 90 percent of the issues; and [on] the [remaining] 10 percent we shall agree to disagree.

Does not any final status mean dismantling settlements?

I am not so sure. The problem is the relationship, the alienation between the peoples. If you can bring people together and have coexistence, then what is the problem?

What about Jerusalem? Are you heading for a deal with the Palestinians on this issue? Perhaps a functionalist-type solution as advocated by Teddy Kollek in a 'Foreign Affairs' article a few years ago?

I don't want to talk about Jerusalem. All I have said is that Jerusalem is closed politically and open religiously. We are not going to build a wall of Berlin in the heart of Jerusalem and we are not going to forbid the freedom of worship.

JORDAN

You have promoted talks with Jordan, and now they appear to be moving ahead in earnest in July. What can be accomplished, and what are the underlying principles guiding the Israeli position in those talks?

I think we have to make clear the following points to Jordan: We recognize the legitimacy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; and while some have said Jordan is Palestine, I think Jordan is Jordan.

Israel is committed to the existence of the Hashemite Kingdom indefinitely?

Yes.

The second point is, what is [properly under] Jordanian sovereignty will belong to them, just as what is [properly under] Israeli sovereignty belongs to us. Third, cooperating economically can transform the Jordan Rift in the Arava into a valley of peace. We can attract investment, we can produce water, we can enlarge tourism. We can bring jobs and life to tens of thousands of families. Fourth, we are [keenly aware of] Jordanian sensitivity concerning the holy places in Jerusalem.

We do not intend to ignore it or reject it. The idea of King Hussein having a religious dialogue, without referring to a political dialogue, is a worthwhile approach. The king says the sovereignty of the holy places belongs to the Almighty in Heaven. I think it is an interesting expression.

How do you explain that Jordan is splitting off from Syria now and negotiating with Israel on its own? Is it due to the Israel-Palestinian economic agreement, and their fear that the train was leaving the station?

Yes. They realized that our accord with the PLO is a fact and not just a negotiation. They also realized that the Syrians were not moving.

SYRIA

With Secretary of State Warren Christopher expected to arrive in a couple of weeks, has the time come yet for the US to put forward its own bridging proposal to break the deadlock between Israel and Syria?

I think not. A bridging proposal would put the US above these negotiations. The Syrians must show a readiness to deal with us.

There are rumors that during your last trip to Europe you spoke with people who could serve as a back channel to negotiations with Syria. Is there any truth to that?

There is no shortage of back channels, but what doesn't exist is Syrian readiness to negotiate on both levels – the level of public attention, and the level of cabinets. People watch television today. They have to be convinced that the two nations are really interested in peace. On the other side, on the secret side, you have to air out differences and try to come to a compromise, where you try, you attempt, you praise, you negotiate.

Is it fair to say that you have asked other European foreign ministers or maybe other interlocutors to serve...?

Whoever shows a readiness to do so, we encourage.

And has this been going on?

It's going on, but without results.

Do you put hope in this?

I'm trying. The prime minister and I are trying.

Could you say how long this has been going on? A few months?

We are trying this all the time. The Americans are also trying to convince the Syrians.

Can you confirm that these third parties are French, Austrian, British or Norwegian?

No. The minute I do so, it is no longer secret.

The idea of US troops on the Golan Heights has attracted some attention in the US. Is it fair to say that we're talking about a monitoring force and not a fighting force?

We haven't reached that point at all. We were never anxious to have American soldiers defending our lives. We may end up monitoring or something like it. We shall see; it's too early. And you know it's too early to kill options or create options. With all due respect to the negotiations, why should we do it?

You've mentioned the CSCE (Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe) idea as being helpful in the Middle East. But how can it provide any security for Israel while it has proved utterly useless to stop the killing in Bosnia?

The business of peacemaking is today a home product, not a superpower product.

So a CSCE idea would not replace local security arrangements?

No, it would elevate them. Security arrangements today are not just military [arrangements], but also political and human relations.

Some say you see the CSCE idea as a means of maintaining a modicum of communication with the Syrians in the event that peace talks fail. Can there be a CSCE if there's no peace agreement between Israel and the Syrians?

Look, the fact is there are multilateral negotiations with 12 Arab countries participating. Let me say something else here more bluntly. I think that all of us, including the experts, must adopt a little bit more modesty. Because what was forecast did not necessarily happen. So a person may say something is impossible, but how does he know?

ROLE OF EXPERTISE

You consistently say there are no experts about the future, only about the past. At its core, isn't this an anti-intellectual approach? Aren't you basically saying you don't need analysts anymore?

We need experts for the future. On the contrary, this is an intellectual approach. The great thing is to divorce ourselves from the world of yesterday, and recognize the world of today; and [we're] not even speaking of the world of tomorrow.

So what makes a person eligible to be an analyst of tomorrow, if basically the analysts of yesterday are worthless? Who is such a person?

I'm not talking about an expert of tomorrow, but an expert of today.

So what makes a person an expert of today?

To tell the truth, to say the truth as it appears to them. For example, to say how communism collapsed, to tell the true story, what made it collapse. I'm not saying anything [beyond] reason. I don't suggest fortune tellers. I'm simply calling [for people] to open [their] eyes, and see not the world of tomorrow, but of today, where science is more important than territory, where technology is more important than natural resources. Information is more powerful than governments.

You've mentioned in your recent book that territory is unimportant in an age of missiles. Yet Kuwait was vanquished by a conventional army.

We focus on the tank but the next war will come from the unconventional missile. The way of the strong against the weak is to conquer territory, while the way of the weak against the strong is to conquer equality. The way of the weak against the strong is to use the knife. No matter how poor you are you can get nuclear bombs.

Yet the last war was a conventional war.

It was an unconventional war. It used American technology against the Iraqi army.

PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR PEACE

I know you have a strong bias against polling data, saying you are not elected to take the public pulse every day. However, the public does need to be convinced to move forward on the peace process. There are two polls out saying only 37 percent want to move forward. Does this concern you at all? And how do you plan to change that?

People were frightened with what would happen initially in Gaza. Some great experts said it would be a catastrophe, and the violence would rise. They said the Oslo Agreement was idiotic, and whatnot. Now look at their faces. What of all those pessimistic views came true? Nothing. So I'm not impressed. People already forgot about Gaza. They think it's prehistory... I'm convinced there is a stream of history that even the public polls cannot stop. Suppose we have a majority of people saying we don't like it – so we'll stop?

So what you're saying is, so long as it's the correct approach in your view, then the level of public support is immaterial?

It's not immaterial, it's unstable. One day there's a happy poll, next day not happy. I'm not impressed by it. Furthermore I want to tell you something. I have a feeling of revolt against them [the pollsters]. Because I feel more and more people are prisoners of the image-making. Our task is not to make an image, but to create a situation.

It seems you have deliberately taken on a specific role in the peace process, a combination of bulldozer and lightning rod. You charge ahead, don't seek to explain, but just move forward. Does it bother you to be unpopular?

I don't think it's helped my popularity. I know there are problems. [But] I know the Likud is off-balance. I feel myself in some ways the most independent political figure in Israel. Nobody can add to what I have done, and nobody can take away from what I did.

Some believe you're disconnected from the public when they talk about security fears, and about your vision for a new Middle East.

I think I started ideas that had a great deal of opposition but gradually it's making its way. People come up to me and say I remember you told us about "Gaza first" 15, 20 years ago. Now I'm saying the same thing about Jordan: it will come true.

Do you see it as a historical vindication?

Yes. I do see it as a vindication. I don't have to react to editorials in the papers, or cartoons, either.

THE JERUSALEM LETTER

I want to ask you about your "Jerusalem letter" to the late Norwegian foreign minister Johan Jorgen Holst. You insisted that you did not cover this up, saying you wrote to the Norwegian and not to Arafat. Yet, the public feels your explanation is weak and this has hurt your credibility. Can you not admit that you made a mistake?

I regret that it became public.

You mean your only regret was that it did not remain secret?

Yes, as a secret letter it had strength, but once it was revealed, it became weak.

Otherwise, no regrets?

No regrets.

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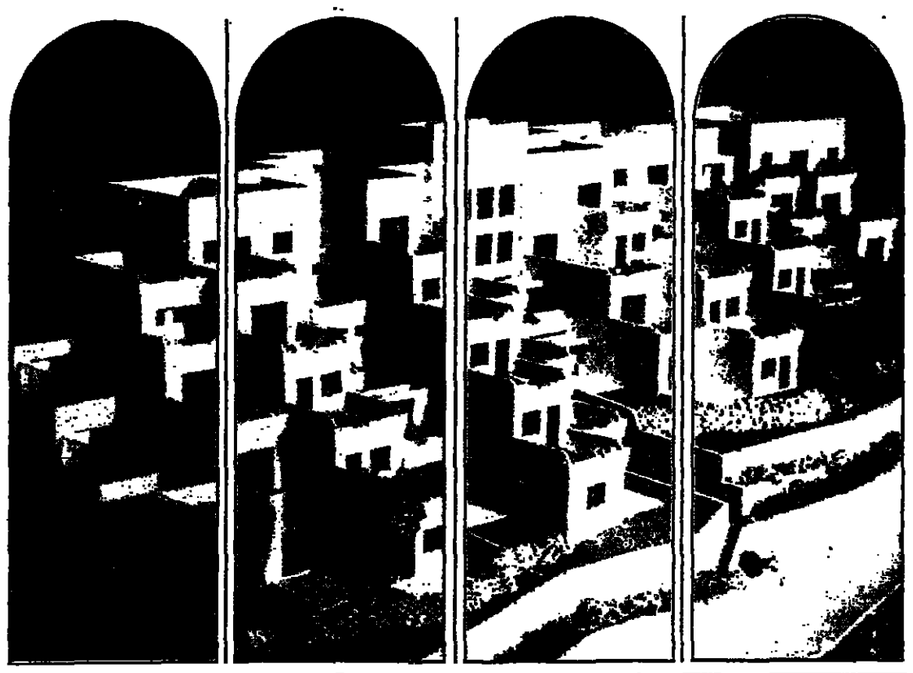

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Peace makes its way to Hebron

There's a serious change in Arab opinion about Israel, especially among Hebronites, **Jon Immanuel** reports

If Hebron remains calm, the Cave of the Patriarchs will be reopened to Moslem and Jew alike and the makeshift vegetable market in Police Square will return to its proper location. (Sarit Uziely)

EVERY Friday at 11 a.m. two patrols of the international observer mission go down to Police Square to watch 30 minutes of stone-throwing. That just about wraps up the violence for the week in Hebron.

"We feel we have [broken] the vicious circle," said Bjarno Sorensen, spokesman of the Temporary International Presence. "Merchants tell us that the same 10 or 15 people are responsible for provoking stone-throwing at soldiers every week. The soldiers are restrained."

There has been a sharp drop in violence during the last three weeks, which the Scandinavian and Italian observers attribute to their own efforts. The IDF, Hamas and the PLO also think they had something to do with it.

Whatever the truth of these claims, it is clear that the peace process has managed to digest the Hebron massacre, which four months ago threatened to destroy it in a torrent of riots, revenge and recrimination.

The significance of this calming cannot be overestimated. For there is no doubt that a massacre of this kind before the peace process began would have had more terrible consequences.

WITH THE peace process has come a serious change in Arab thinking about Israelis.

After the publication of the report of the Shamgar Commission on Sunday, the press emphasized Arab rejection of many of its conclusions about the moral responsibility of settlers, the army and the government. It missed the fact that many Palestinians *do* accept the most important conclusion: That there was no conspiracy, that Baruch Goldstein, acting alone, opened fire in the mosque.

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe said he accepted the commission's objectivity on this point, and "its ability to study the evidence with scientific means." He knew this contradicted the Palestinians' own commission of inquiry and the eyewitness accounts of many people who were in the Cave of the Patriarchs on the awful morning of February 25.

It is a new phenomenon. Palestinians attaching any credence to an Israeli commission of inquiry. And there's added significance in the fact that the Shamgar report contradicts the conclusions of the commission headed by Hebron lawyer Hashem Kawasmeh, which relied almost entirely on Arab witnesses and found that Goldstein was not the only Israeli who opened fire.

But Palestinians do not take their own commission's findings seriously. Explaining the contradiction, Yasser Amr, who was born in the Hebron area and is education minister in the Palestinian Authority, was quoted in the Jerusalem Arabic daily *Al-Quds* as saying: "The committee did not have the legal means to carry out the necessary procedures."

Then there is the question of revenge. Hamas pledged five revenge attacks. The first was perpetrated in Afula, and Arafat remained silent. Hamas carried out one more in Hadera before understanding that further attacks, especially inside Israel, would not be popular; and now it desists almost entirely from organized violence.

STANDING OUTSIDE the Cave of the Patriarchs on Sunday, Abed Muhtaseb, who lost two cousins, Wael and Nur, in the massacre, said: "The Jews in Tel Aviv are good people, but not the settlers here."

Mohammed Mujahed, the father of 33-year-old massacre victim Nimr Mujahed, said: "I do not want revenge. I am happy my son is in the hands of God."

However, he does not believe his son's killer is dead. "Witnesses told me that Goldstein was shooting to the front, but Nimr was behind him. He was shot by someone else."

In religion-saturated Hebron, publicly calling for revenge has gone out of fashion among Moslems, almost as much as expressing compassion for the victims has gone out of fashion among Jews.

"You no longer have symmetry between Arab extremists and Jewish extremists," says Khaled Suleiman, a Hebron journalist sympathetic to the political views of Hamas.

If there is some truth in this, the peace process is responsible. Among the Arab opponents of peace there appears to be willingness among all but a handful of extremists to let the process take its course, since they assume it will fail. They can always take up violence later, when it fails; and they do not wish to be blamed for its failure.

Among the Jews in the territories there is a growing feeling that each day the peace process gathers momentum it is more likely to succeed at their expense, and they will be less able to react.

Settlers are the main believers in a conspiracy theory, desperately needing to fit the massacre into a scheme of things which works in their favor. In Kiryat Arba the conspiracy theory goes beyond any reasonable proportions. Whereas some Hebron Arabs, their faces towards peace, distinguish between Jews who are for and against peace, settlers, who feel they are in the midst of a war, tend to make no distinctions inside the enemy camp.

"They were all planning murder," said a Kiryat Arba man called Albert of Goldstein's 29 victims.

"Even the 12-year-olds?" he was asked.

"They are the worst," he said. Like most residents he refused to identify himself in full.

"The Arabs hate us," said Shlomo, the 18-year-old son of Rabbi Moshe Levinger, whose personality founded and forged the ethos of Kiryat Arba and Hebron.

During a 30-minute journey in which this reporter drove him to his Gush Etzion army base, these were the only words Shlomo uttered.

Daniel Horowitz, a resident of the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem's Old City, explained Goldstein's crime at length as part of the messianic pangs before redemption when Moslems will "be happy to serve Jews."

Among the Hebron Arabs there are ideological counterparts. Abdel Jawad Amr, an embittered vegetable merchant, sells his wares from the makeshift market located on a traffic island by downtown Police Square.

"Are you a Jew?" He asked. "You should know it is the worst thing to close a mosque," he said, referring to to the closure of the gigantic tomb known as the Cave of the Patriarchs. Then he said: "Abraham was not a Jew. He was a Moslem, and you must convert to Islam or burn."

The vegetable market near the Avraham Avinu synagogue was also closed to decrease the chances of revenge attacks on the small Jewish Quarter.

Sometime this month, if the town remains calm, the Cave of the Patriarchs will be opened to Jew and Moslem alike, with new security precautions to keep them apart. The makeshift vegetable market in Police Square will also go back to its proper location.

The house the Husseinis built

For most Palestinians, Orient House symbolizes a political presence in Jerusalem, but for now it has no official connection with the self-rule deal, **Lamia Lahoud** writes

"FOR Palestinians there are two important addresses in Jerusalem. Al Aqsa mosque, for religious reasons, and Orient House, for political reasons," says a Fatah leader from the territories, a member of the Palestinian Authority who prefers anonymity.

For most Palestinians, he says, Orient House symbolizes a political presence in Jerusalem.

Owned by the Husseini family, the elegant Arab mansion which goes by that name served as a hotel between 1948 and 1967, when the Jordanians ruled that part of the city. Under Israel, it was rented out for office space. In 1992, Faisal Husseini turned the mansion into the headquarters of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks.

There is no mistaking the official nature of the building. A Palestinian flag is raised over the entrance . It's been there since September 13 of last year. At the main gate a guard checks all visitors, and more guards watch from the courtyard.

They are all under Husseini's direct control. He refuses to accept armed security guards from Jibril Rajoub's general security service in Jericho.

"He wants to avoid a confrontation with the Israelis," says the Fatah leader. "He uses his own guards, who were all trained as bodyguards in Jordan." Some of these guards were recently arrested by the Israeli police and charged with acting as an independent police force in eastern Jerusalem and torturing people they were interrogating.

Husseini insists Orient House is not connected with the self-rule deal, and is therefore not under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority.

"We started out as the main office of the Palestinian delegation to the peace process. We will continue to serve the whole peace process, but we will not be part of the Authority in Gaza and Jericho and the autonomy agreement," Husseini says.

Once the negotiations over the final status of the territories and Jerusalem begin, Orient House may serve as a Palestinian Authority office, Husseini says.

Until the signing of the Oslo agreement, Orient House, in its capacity as headquarters of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, served as the official Palestinian address for foreign diplomats and government officials. It was there that they would meet with Husseini, who was first the "adviser," and then – as soon as Labor came to power – the official head of the Palestinian delegation.

At that time, the main wing housed the Palestinian delegates' meeting room and the general operation room, which had diplomatic and political desks dealing with the Arab world and Africa, Israel, Europe and America. It was in the operation room, equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones and four clocks giving the time in Jerusalem, Washington, London and Tokyo, that the delegates and their young staff of some 25 people would receive orders from the PLO Tunis headquarters and communicate with foreign governments.

Press relations were handled by Orient House's own press officer. The side wing housed the Palestinian technical committees for the multilateral talks. The technical committees had about 400 professionals working with them on a voluntary basis.

SINCE THE implementation of the autonomy agreement, most political activities have moved to the self-rule areas Jericho and Gaza, says the Fatah leader: Arafat could not countenance foreign diplomats and government officials visiting Husseini at Orient House before meeting with him and Palestinian Authority officials in Jericho and Gaza. The technical committees, too, have relocated in Jericho and Gaza.

Compared to the post-Madrid pace, activities at the former headquarters of the Palestinian delegation have slowed down. But most of the young staff still work with Husseini, and since November he has had more than 35 meetings with foreign diplomats and government officials in the operation room.

Fatah figures also still meet at Orient House with Husseini as the head of Fatah in the territories, though Fatah has its own office in Jerusalem, not far away. Other Palestinians from Jerusalem – political figures, human rights activists, professionals and ordinary residents – come daily to Husseini with problems and complaints.

"We are forming a special department for complaints for Jerusalemites," says Husseini. "Our staff will advise them and refer them to the right lawyers or organizations. Serious issues relating to Jerusalem I will take to police minister Moshe Shahal, who is my Israeli partner on the Jerusalem file."

Arafat has appointed Husseini Palestinian coordinator for Jerusalem. Husseini says he works together with Ziad Abu Ziad, the Orient House liaison officer with the Israelis.

JAN ABU SHAKRA from PHRIC, the Palestinian Human Rights Information Center, describes Husseini as the leader of all Palestinians in Jerusalem, and Orient House as their official address. She says the Jerusalem Municipality has been ignoring the problems of the Palestinian population, which is why Palestinian residents come to Orient House instead. Since Ehud Olmert took over as mayor, the pressure on the Palestinian population has increased, she says.

PHRIC is part of the Arab Study Society, a documentation center located in Orient House. Founded by Husseini in 1979, it publishes a monthly newsletter. Some 70 people work with the Arab Study society and PHRIC, says Haitham Abdel Kader, Orient House spokesman.

Husseini denies that he is preparing a Palestinian "shadow municipality" in Jerusalem, but he admits that he intends to turn Orient House into a Palestinian agency to serve Jerusalem's Palestinian population. For that purpose he is forming a Jerusalem committee of religious leaders, members of political factions, trade unionists, lawyers and experts in housing, education and health.

Husseini says he does not want to joint the Authority except perhaps as adviser on Jerusalem. He wants to persuade all Palestinian factions, including opposition groups, to work with him. Jamil Hammameh, a prominent Islamic figure in Jerusalem with links to Hamas, has said that Hamas is willing to work with Husseini on issues relating to Jerusalem as long as Husseini is not part of the Palestinian Authority.

Husseini invited opposition groups to participate in the first meeting of the Jerusalem committee three weeks ago, according to a leader of the PFLP who refused to attend a meeting at Orient House. For the rejectionists, Orient House led to the autonomy deal. Like Hamas, the PFLP may reconsider, once its members are sure that Husseini alone holds the Jerusalem file, without participating in the autonomy government.

Husseini finances the activities of Orient House with no help from the Authority, and he will soon travel to the Gulf on a fund-raising tour, according to a source close to him. Asked about a report published in *The Jerusalem Post* that the Saudi government is ready to invest a billion dollars in Jerusalem, Husseini says Saudi Arabia has for some time expressed an interest in investing in Jerusalem, especially in the Moslem holy places.

In addition to its Jerusalem activities, Orient House will also start an economic department which will offer advice and information to Palestinians from abroad, and foreign and Israeli businessmen who are interested in investing in the Palestinian private sector, says Husseini.

Despite calls by Israeli officials to close Orient House, there is no government pressure to do so, according to its staffers. A PFLP member says two types of Palestinian institutions are under Israeli pressure to move out of Jerusalem – those representing the Palestinian Authority, like the Palestinian Bureau of Statistics and the Palestinian Economic Council, and offices and institutions associated with Palestinian opposition groups. The Fatah source from the territories confirms this:

"All Palestinian institutions of the Palestinian Authority will move to Jericho and Gaza, but since the Orient House is not part of the Authority and offers services to Palestinians from Jerusalem, it will continue to operate in Jerusalem."

World's oldest city is back on the tourist trail

Jericho has many attractions, but most popular with tourists this week were Palestinian policemen and flags, **Haim Shapiro** reports

Jericho's tourism head says the town has more than 30 sites suitable for tourists but no tourism policy. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

FOR the Christians from Indonesia and the Bible students from America, it was exciting to see the site of ancient Jericho, but it appeared that they were even more excited by the opportunity of being photographed standing next to a real Palestinian policeman.

This week, following a period of about six weeks when Israeli security forces had advised tourist buses not to enter Jericho, the buses were again allowed to enter the town freely.

"From the ninth of June until the day before yesterday, there were 10 to 15 tourists a day here," says Ibrahim Jadallah, head of the local tourist office, on Tuesday.

Earlier, during the first days of Palestinian autonomy, he says, there had been close to 1,000 visitors a day, far more than the number of those who had visited the town during all the days of the intifada.

Jadallah, whose office is a mobile structure at the foot of Tel Jericho, the site known as the oldest city in the world, stressed that it is still early days to talk about a tourism policy for the town.

According to Jadallah, there are about 34 sites which are suitable for tourist visits in the town, although until now only four or five of them have been open to visitors.

The present sites include the tel, where archeologists have uncovered dozens of strata representing thousands of years of civilization. The tel attracts thousands of visitors, many of whom identify it with the ancient walled city which Joshua conquered when he entered the Land of Israel.

The Hebrew signs at Tel Jericho have been painted over and now appear in Arabic and English, but at Hisham's Palace, the seventh-century winter home of the caliph of the same name, with its famed bath house and peacock mosaic, the old Hebrew and English signs of the National Parks Authority (NPA) are still very much in evidence.

When there are no tourist buses around, the site is virtually deserted, with not even a ticket-taker in sight. A lone Palestinian policeman, his semi-automatic weapon held threateningly before him, approaches, but when he draws near it is clear that all he wants to do is smile, shake hands, and address the visitors in voluble Arabic.

Indeed, these days it is the Palestinian policemen, situated at every road crossing, and the ubiquitous Palestinian flags, which appear to be the main tourist attraction in Jericho.

Ruth Nina, 14, is one of the few members of a Galilee Tours group of Indonesian Christian visitors brave enough to use her English.

"I'm so excited. We saw on TV the Palestinians and the Israelis," she says, smiling shyly and showing a mouthful of braces. Other members of the group don't want to talk, but they cluster around the Palestinian policemen, who are wearing a variety of uniforms and taking turns having their pictures taken.

Gordon Franz, a field-trip instructor for the Holyland Institute for Biblical Studies, an evangelical Protestant institution in Jerusalem, says that the institute had tried to take its students to Jericho three weeks ago, but the town was closed. This week, since it was open, they included it in a tour of the north, instead of the scheduled trip to Caesarea.

"Who knows when it will be open again? This is more fun than Caesarea," Franz says.

Khalid Abdelrazek views the arrival of the tourist buses with satisfaction. Abdelrazek is owner of the Mt. of Temptation Restaurant, an eating place named for the Christian site rising above it. In 1979, he opened a modest restaurant with seating for 50. Now the sparkling new marble edifice, with a fountain in the entrance, seats 1,200 for a self-service buffet meal of salads and grilled meats at $8 a head.

Also in the restaurant complex is a souvenir shop which has a few Palestinian dresses, but mostly sells Israeli T-shirts and Ahava Dead Sea cosmetic products.

Among the less-frequented Jericho tourist sites are Elisha's Spring, and the Shalom al Yisrael Synagogue, currently operating as a Gush Emunim yeshiva. However, the tourist office has high hopes of keeping visitors in the town longer than the hour or two it takes to visit the tel and perhaps Hisham's Palace. Among the sites that the tourist office hopes to develop for visitors is Herod's palace in Wadi Kelt, Jadallah says.

The Jericho Municipality sells its tickets to the various sites, but the authorities also accept vouchers from Israeli and Arab tour companies and the all-inclusive tickets of the NPA, even though the authority has not yet compensated the municipality for these visits, Jadallah says. In the first days of autonomy, the municipality had refused to honor the NPA tickets, making it difficult for some members of budget-priced Christian tours.

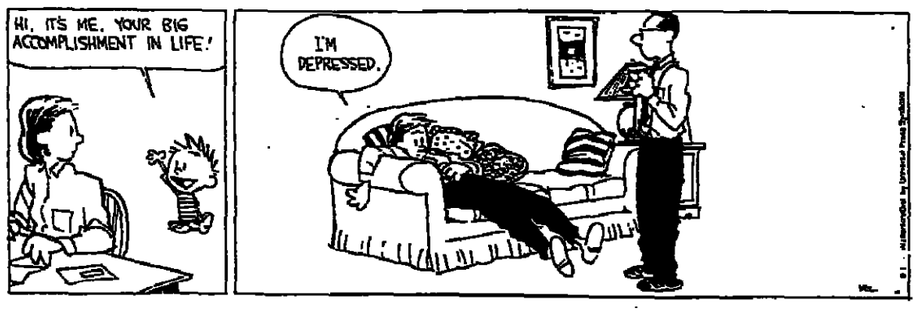
Another planned project is a vacation village, with swimming pool and tennis courts, which Jadallah promises will be even cheaper than those resorts which are attracting thousands of Israelis to Turkey.

"[The Israelis] can come by car, instead of going by plane," says Jadallah, who figures that about half of the guests will be Israelis and foreigners, while the other half will be Palestinians and Arabs from other countries, who will come after the peace process has been completed.

Within six months, he says, there will be five hotels under construction, one with 65 suites, another with 300 rooms, and the other three to be in the form of motels, with an unspecified number of rooms. However, for investments to come, he admits, those with the funds will have to be convinced that there will indeed be peace.

Meanwhile, Jericho's sole existing hotel, Hisham's Palace, bears a large sign identifying it as a "Press Office," one of the many places rented by various news organizations in preparation for the arrival of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. The tourist buses may be coming in, but it is still the media who pay the hotel bills.

Calvin and Hobbes BY BILL WATTERSON



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Ex-Prisoner of Zion tries out Zionist politics

Gush Etzion activist Yuli Edelstein, once symbol of a cause that unified Jews, is central in a debate dividing them, Herb Keinon writes

ON July 12, 1987, Yuli Edelstein's ordeal as a Prisoner of Zion ended when he, his wife and baby daughter, landed at Ben-Gurion Airport. The next day they moved to a rented apartment in the settlement of Alon Shvut in Gush Etzion.

Seven years later to the day, on July 12, 1994, Edelstein will be running in an election to head the Gush Etzion local council. If elected to this potentially high-profile job as "mayor" of the 14-settlement Gush, he will be the highest-level politician to have emerged from the ranks of recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Edelstein – whose release from a Soviet gulag was championed by politicians and activists from the left and the right – will, if elected, find himself in the middle of the country's gut-wrenching debate over the settlements. He will have gone from a symbol of a cause that unified Jews to a central player in a debate dividing them.

"Shimon Peres and Mordechai Gur helped me a great deal," Edelstein said in an interview this week, referring to political support he received during the years when he was incarcerated in prisons near the Soviet border with Mongolia. "I will not call them traitors and representatives of Titus. But I will want to show them, and the country, that their path is mistaken."

Some, like Bobby Brown, head of the Gush Etzion settlement of Tekoa, feel Edelstein may be uniquely able to do just that. "He has a strong presence, is widely respected, and is an eloquent speaker," Brown said. "He is also unique in that he can speak to and explain our position to the Russian immigrants. This is an important edge, because these immigrants provided the seats that gave Labor the government in the last election."

Others, however, feel Edelstein lacks the management experience needed to run a bureaucracy that provides services for 7,000 residents. "So what if he was a Prisoner of Zion," said one Alon Shvut resident who asked not to be identified. "That doesn't mean he understands how things work here, or that he knows how to work with the bureaucracy."

Yuli Edelstein: We need a much more aggressive stance toward the media and the government. (Isaac Harari)

Edelstein said that his decision to run against incumbent local council head Shilo Gal, and a third candidate, Shmuel Weiss, was prompted by the need for a more activist approach in the Gush. "This is not a regular municipal election about who can collect the garbage or provide electricity," Edelstein said. "This campaign is about a concept."

Edelstein said that Gush Etzion has not been active enough in presenting itself as part of the national consensus. "Mordechai Gur and Ya'acov Tsur have told me that they consider Gush Etzion part of greater Jerusalem. We have to make sure they stand by their words.... We need a much more aggressive stance toward the media, and toward the government," Edelstein said.

Implied in Edelstein's words are a criticism of Gal's modus operandi, of his style of shying away from the limelight and working from within the bureaucracy to get things done for his settlements. But, Edelstein said, Gal's attempt to "be the good guy" has not produced the results. "Look at the head of the Jordan Valley regional Council," Edelstein said. "He screamed and tied himself to the fence with Jordan and got NIS 15 million. You don't hear about this type of thing from the Gush. The Gush tries to be good children."

Gal, for his part, said "I do; he talks. Edelstein may be able to express himself well, but you judge a man by what he has done, not what he has said."

Although Edelstein said he is running as an independent candidate, Gal claimed he is in fact a Likud candidate. "We are a region of 14 settlements, including haredi settlements and kibbutzim. Once you introduce party politics here, the whole fabric that keeps the settlements together is in danger," he said.

Yeshayahu Yehieli, one of Gal's supporters who will probably became Edelstein's deputy if he wins, said that during Gal's 15-year tenure, the area has "flourished." Tekoa's Brown disputes that, saying that in the last five years Gush Etzion has developed more slowly than any other regional council in the territories.

The 36-year-old Edelstein isn't typical of settlement leaders. He did not study in a Bnei Akiva yeshiva high school, did not stare down the Labor government while trying to set up a settlement at Sebastia, does not speak in the brief, clipped IDF tones so prevalent among heads of the settlement councils. He is not part of the Gush Emunim "old boy" network that has provided a cadre of leadership in many of the settlements.

Rather, Edelstein was picked up by the KGB from his Moscow apartment in 1984 on trumped-up drug charges. His real "crime" was that he was a Hebrew teacher and an aliya activist. He served two years and eight months in Soviet prisons for his activism. He decided to move to Alon Shvut, he said, because Gush Etzion was very active in the campaign for his freedom.

"I was not Gush Emunim," he said. "I did not move to Alon Shvut for ideological reasons, but rather because I felt a connection with the people there who worked on my behalf." The ideological connection has grown with time.

In the seven years since his aliya, Edelstein, who speaks flawless Hebrew and English, has worked variously as director of Zionist seminars for immigrants from the CIS, as a lobbyist for immigrant rights in his capacity as vice-president of the Soviet Jewry Zionist Forum, and – most recently – as an adviser to Binyamin Netanyahu on immigrant matters.

"One of the central problems in fighting for public opinion is the difficulty people from beyond the Green Line have identifying with the image of the settler," Edelstein said. "It is difficult for them to identify with the settler with the large kippa and long beard who says that he will shoot at the Palestinian police at the first opportunity."

Edelstein wears a kippa, but has no beard. His approach to the peace process, even the terms he uses to describe it, betray Netanyahu's influence: Edelstein is fiercely opposed to the peace process, but not radical or militant. Jews everywhere supported Edelstein when he was a Prisoner of Zion. He hopes they will continue to do so if he becomes Gush Etzion's leading spokesman.

From Bergen-Belsen to Haifa, with no stops in between

In June 1944, 222 Dutch Jews were released from Bergen-Belsen and sent to Palestine. Next week, members of the 'Exchange List' will hold a 50th reunion here, Suzanne Glass reports

Yaacov Oppenheim (left) welcoming his father to Palestine: The suffering and hunger had made him unrecognizable.

THE Nazis were desperate to free 222 Dutch Jews in 1944. Not only were they desperate to free them, but they wanted to send them straight to Palestine. There was, of course, no altruism in their actions. In exchange they wanted an equal number of German Templers who had been caught in Palestine at the outbreak of war, and German nationals stranded in other parts of Europe.

In his Jerusalem apartment, 67-year-old Yaacov Yannay hands over a commemorative envelope. It depicts a train shrouded in barbed wire. The inscription reads, "Exchange Transport 222. Bergen-Belsen 1944 – Jerusalem 1994."

On July 11, 1944, *The Palestine Post* reported that 222 refugees arrived in Haifa looking pathetic, old and sick. Kept away from their relatives, for fear of infectious disease, they were taken straight to hospital in Atlit.

YAACOV Yannay was on the transport that arrived in Haifa 50 years ago next week, but he is reluctant to tell his story. He stares out of jet black eyes and says, "Why my story? Why is it more important than what the other survivors of the Exchange List have to say?"

Yannay's story is not more important, but it is representative.

"In Bergen-Belsen, it was Monday nights that were the worst. The cattle trucks took people away. We knew it wasn't supposed to happen to us. My parents, brothers, sisters and I knew we were on the Exchange List, to be sent to Palestine. But when you are surviving on 60 grams of margarine a week and water with grass in it, it is hard to believe in anything.

"After two months I fell ill with TB. I was coughing up so much blood and I had such a high fever, the doctors thought I wasn't going to make it. When they came and told my father he could leave on the transport for Palestine, they wanted him to go without me. They said I would just be a wasted statistic. I would never make the journey. My father had the choice ... to take me with to die on the way or to stay behind and let the whole family perish.

"I remember being carried out of the camp on a stretcher on the night of June 29, 1944. We had begun an arduous 10-day journey across burning Europe. We didn't know why we had been 'chosen' to escape the hell of Bergen-Belsen. We only knew we were going."

In fact, as Chaya Brasz, currently doing a doctorate on the Exchange List at the Hebrew University says it wasn't until 10 years ago that the background to the exchange began to come to light.

"The exchangees never had time to look into it, but as they grew older they started to ask questions. Why us? How did it happen? They started to want to know the truth."

THE TRUTH is that the Nazis needed to find Palestinian Jews or British nationals to swap for German citizens and they couldn't find enough. They had already murdered most of the Palestinian Jews trapped in Europe. The Germans came up with the idea that Dutch Jews related to Jews in Palestine could qualify for registration on the Exchange List.

But Palestine was under British Mandate, and the British didn't want to know. Antisemitism among British officials was rife and aliya was a phenomenon they actively discouraged.

Between the outbreak of war in 1939 and March 1944, only 75,00 Jews were allowed to enter Palestine.

The woman in charge of the Red Cross in Palestine made communication between the Jews of Palestine and the Jews of Occupied Europe as difficult as possible. She didn't see it as her job to facilitate contact and was eventually fired for her lack of cooperation, says Brasz.

But despite the antisemitism of the establishment, British public opinion triumphed, and by December 1942 the government was having its arm twisted to do something about the plight of the Jews.

In the meantime, Dutch Jews living in Palestine had discovered a way to communicate with their relatives – through the Red Cross in Geneva – and they immediately began to send them Exchange Certificates.

The telegrams inviting Dutch Jews to Palestine were limited to 25 words. Only Zionists, rabbis and their families, with relatives in Palestine, were eligible for "the List."

Yaacov Oppenheim was in Palestine at the time. "I sent my parents an Exchange Certificate. I knew they were living in horrific conditions in Europe and I was overjoyed when I heard they had been listed to come here, but I didn't know when, how, and if they would really arrive."

In the end it was impatience and not pity that induced the British to accept the Dutch Jews as exchangees. By 1944 they were anxious to get the transport under way. They didn't want the Germans to get away with "lower numbers" than they themselves had had to supply. Brasz says that even when the British authorized the transport, they were still adamant not to be seen as promoting Jewish immigration.

"They told the Germans that the Jews they were accepting were only to be seen as 'temporary exchangees' to stay in Palestine until they could find Palestinian Jews to take their place."

The "temporary exchangees" were the 222 inmates who left Bergen-Belsen by foot, exhausted and emaciated on June 29, 1944. They walked to Celle, the nearest railway station. There they boarded the train that was to take them through wartorn Europe. Despite the fact that he was wracked with TB, Yannay remembers his overwhelming fear when the train stopped in Budapest.

"We listened while the bombs just kept on falling and falling. It would have been a bitter irony if we had been killed en route.

"From Budapest we traveled on to Belgrade and to Sofia. They put us on a boat and we couldn't understand why we were going round and round in circles on the waters around Istanbul. Now I know. The Germans were waiting to see if their citizens had been delivered."

It was there, on the Bosphorous, that the exchange took place on July 6, 1994.

"From there we went by train though Syria, Lebanon and on to Haifa. That was when I was reborn. Not only because I was half dead with TB, but also because I had arrived in Palestine. Today, I consider July 10, the day we arrived in Haifa, as my birthday. I phone the people I know who were on the transport and I say 'Happy Birthday.'"

OPPENHEIM was one of the young men waiting for his parents in Palestine.

"We were informed that they had arrived, but we weren't allowed to see them till the next day. They had been taken to Atlit, in case they were infectious. I went to find them. I asked a soldier to bring me my parents. A man came to the wire fence and I said, 'I'm sorry there must be some mistake. This is not my father.' It was, but the suffering and the hunger had made him unrecognizable – or at least until I spent a few minutes with him. Then I thought, 'Yes, yes, this is my Father.'"

The exchangees began to make a life for themselves in Palestine, and although there has been contact among small groups of them, to date there has been no reunion of all the survivors. But last year Yannay had a brainwave.

"I was sitting with a few of the Exchange List survivors and I said, 'Next year is our 50th anniversary. We have to do something.' The problem was we didn't know who was alive and who was dead."

With the help of Dr. Bram Oppenheimer, a Londoner whose aunt was on the transport, Yannay set about his research. Oppenheimer scoured the archives of London's Public Record Office and Berlin's public archives.

"Then we started sending out circulars. We excluded only the people who would have been over 95 today. We discovered that 55 of the exchangees were still alive. We invited them all to a reunion in Jerusalem. Forty-five are living in Israel and the rest are in America, Britain and Holland. We wanted to get them all together."

YANNAY tries unsuccessfully to hide the depth of his feelings about the imminent reunion.

"We have never all been together before and it wasn't so easy to organize. The anniversary of our arrival in Haifa falls within the nine days before Tisha B'Av, so we had to bring it forward to July 6, which was the date of our exchange on the Bosphorous. But that also fell within the 'three weeks' [of mourning before Tisha B'Av when celebrations are forbidden]. So we went to the former chief rabbi of Holland and said, 'Rabbi, can we celebrate within the three weeks?' He gave us his blessing. He told us to be happy and to make music.

"Even the very Orthodox among us want to join in. We have something to celebrate. We want to get to know each other. We want to exchange our thoughts and our feelings. We want people to open up and talk. Some of them have never even told their story to their children. But if there is too much emotion, I don't know how we will deal with it," says Yannay, getting up and walking out of the room as if anticipating what he will feel next week.

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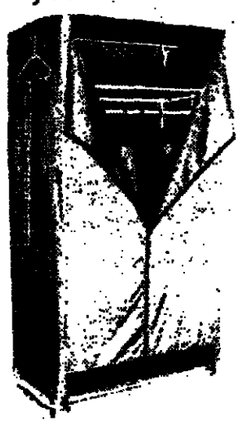

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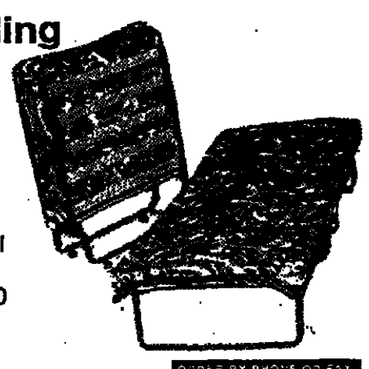

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Route 6 planners try to avoid collision course

Conservationists and road-builders agree that the Cross-Israel Highway will change the face of Israel forever – for better or for worse, Liat Collins writes

"ANYONE who's ever sat in a traffic jam knows why we need this road," says Arye Shabtai. He is in charge of public relations for the Cross-Israel Highway, also known as Route 6, the superhighway planned to cover nearly 300 kilometers from Beersheba to Galilee.

This road, say the environmentalists, will slice through open landscape, forests, wadis and archeological sites, and will change the face of the country, forever – for the worse.

Shabtai says research conducted by the government's Cross-Israel Highway Company shows the road will serve several purposes: "It will link peripheral areas like Beersheba to the center of the country. It will unclog the [traffic] jams in the center of the country. Our studies show that by the year 2010, unless Route 6 is built, the roads in the central region – and that includes other roads still to be built – will be saturated."

The chairman of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, Yoav Sagi, disagrees. Talking to the press at one of the areas that will be most affected by the new road, the stretch between the Ben-Shemen forest and Rosh Ha'ayin, he says: "Look at the horizon. You can see the Tel Aviv-Dan region. But the road isn't being built to relieve the traffic congestion. A good train or bus service would do that. This is being built with an eye to national elections in 1996. Development has again become a sacred cow with which to buy the electorate. Building in this area is to show the voters, the majority of whom live in the central region, that something is being done – even if that something is an irreversible disaster."

Sagi makes his point standing next to the archeological site of Tel Hadid, surrounded by olive groves and hilly scrubland. "The road in this section is planned to have a total 12 lanes, eight main lanes and two two-lane service roads on either side. A three-level interchange is planned every three kilometers along the 20-km. stretch. Each interchange will consume hundreds of dunams so they'll almost be touching. It will be an environmental and landscape disaster. But its benefits to the economy and even transport are not a sure thing," says Sagi.

BOTH SUPPORTERS and opponents of the Cross-Israel Highway agree Route 6 will change the face of the country forever. They also agree that the transport system in Israel is inadequate for the needs of the next century. The SPNI and other conservation groups want improvement of existing roads and better interurban public transport. The country still lacks a national masterplan for transport in the year 2000, says Sagi.

"The Cross-Israel Highway is the most important environmental-ecological issue on the public agenda on the eve of the year 2000," says Joseph Tamir, chairman of Life and Environment, the umbrella organization for all the country's green groups. He cites the "known effects" of paving roads: "Mainly, air and noise pollution, oil pollution and the increased greenhouse effect."

Paving roads encourages the use of private vehicles and all that goes with it – "damage to land resources and underground water reserves and the turning of open areas, nature reserves and scenic areas into fields of asphalt."

Last week the controversy over the road went to the High Court, which gave the state 60 days to explain why it had not ordered a complete environmental impact report.

The court, however, refused to grant an interim injunction stopping all work on the highway. The request came from the Israel Union for Environmental Defense, which wants all work on Route 6 stopped until the court makes a final decision.

By treating the plan in sections, instead of as an overall project, the Interior Ministry's National Planning and Construction Council bypassed the need for one environmental report covering the entire project.

Many of the complaints about the new road focus on the spread of urban blight. Conservationists say the road will mean more gas stations, cafes and shopping centers. Financially strapped kibbutzim and moshavim along the way are demanding franchises for these services as a form of compensation for the loss of agricultural land. "This will also increase our economic dependency on foreign agricultural products," says Sagi.

"This sort of superhighway is not suitable for a small country like Israel, one of the most densely populated places in the world," says Sagi. "We should take the example of countries which have stopped building mammoth superhighways, like Switzerland, and learn from them instead of trying to imitate Los Angeles."

Another opponent, Dr. Elihu Richter, head of the Environmental and Occupational Health Unit at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, quotes reports indicating the highway will raise the numbers of traffic injuries and fatalities.

Ruvy Amir, a landscape architect for the National Parks Authority, points to another problem: The increased quarrying for the millions of tons of gravel needed to build the road. "This will lead to increased quarrying along the road's edge in places like Modi'in, and new quarries being developed elsewhere."

The Cross-Israel Company maintains that the conservationists' claims are exaggerated or unfounded. "The worst pollution comes from cars standing still in a traffic jam with their engines running, not vehicles moving along an open road," Shabtai says. His company is working with landscape architects to minimize damage and incorporate scenic overlooks en route, Shabtai adds.

The Environment Ministry has not officially opposed the road but minister Yossi Sarid has expressed reservations. He says he will remain alert to the environmental problems connected with the road. "Otherwise there's a threat that instead of being a country with a road, we'll become a road with a country."

All aboard on a railway fit for the 21st century

Getting from Petah Tikva to Tel Aviv in 12 minutes won't be a dream if Israel Railways has its way, Abraham Rabinovich reports

BEFORE the Habad movement discreetly buries its "Prepare for the coming of the Messiah" signs, the Ports and Railways Authority might do well to buy up the rising-sun placards at cut-rate prices for its own publicity campaign.

The Messiah has not come, but something akin to the Messianic Age is nigh: commuting to work in the Tel Aviv and Haifa metropolitan areas without traffic jams.

That dazzling prospect should be no more than three or four years away following an agreement in principle by the Treasury to help underwrite a radical modernization program for the nation's railroads. The first stage of the agreement is expected to be authorized by the government when it draws up the next national budget.

Instead of battling rush-hour traffic to Tel Aviv every morning for an hour or more; residents of Kfar Sava, for instance, will be able to board commuter trains and alight in Tel Aviv 26 minutes later. Residents of Petah Tikva will get there in 12 minutes.

"If we get the budgets we've asked for," says Ya'acov Shenzur, director-general of Israel Railways, "the Tel Aviv suburban railway will be ready by 1997-98."

Though top priority is being given to this most densely populated area in the country, the new system will affect the lives of residents from Nahariya to Beersheba by the year 2000, and significantly affect the way the country develops.

Creating a passenger service to Beersheba would place that city an hour or less from Tel Aviv within two to three years, Shenzur says. This would drastically slash the sense of remoteness that makes Beersheba out of bounds for many people seeking a new home. For places in the same general direction but closer in, like Kiryat Gat, this would be even more true.

THE SORRY state of the country's rail system was described by a French firm, Sofretu, which drew up a railroad master plan for the Ports and Railways Authority in 1990. The firm found that failure to develop passenger services since the 1960s had led to their virtual fossilization: Of the 700 million trips annually on public transportation, only 2.5 million were by rail.

Since the 1970s, Western nations have been pouring immense sums into rail systems as an alternative to choked highways, the firm noted in its final report. In addition to easing pressure on overburdened roads, and being a boon to the economy by saving millions of hours wasted in traffic jams, rail systems also save lives.

"Deaths per kilometer traveled in France are 10,000 times greater on roads than on railroads," the report noted.

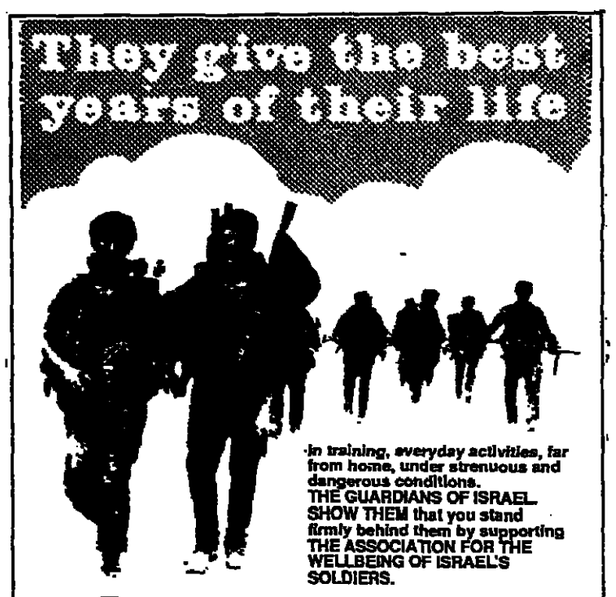
The 590 kilometers of rail lines here are used primarily for moving freight. The only passenger service is on the coastal line between Tel Aviv and Nahariya, and between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem with a spur to Rehovot, though this line is hardly used because it is so slow. The rapid accretion of vehicles on the nation's increasingly clogged roads has finally convinced the authorities that the country is ready for the railroad age.

Under the development plan drawn up by the Ports and Railways Authority, NIS 3 billion is to be invested by the year 2000 to renovate the rail system. Half the money is to come from the government and half is to be raised by the authority itself. Following are some of the key points in the plan:

- The backbone of existing passenger service – the Tel Aviv-Nahariya line – is already being transformed from a single-track system to a double-track system, which will permit speedier passage and the running of more trains. The overhaul, which will include the construction of new stations, is to be completed in the key stretch between Tel Aviv and Haifa by 1996.
- Travel time between Tel Aviv and Haifa by rail, presently some 65 minutes, will be cut to 45 to 50 minutes, Shenzur promises.
- The Tel Aviv suburban system, which will incorporate existing lines used for freight trains; will also be double-tracked. It will link the city with its environs via four passenger lines: Kfar Sava, which will also serve Herzliya and Ra'anana; Petah Tikva; Rishon Lezion, which will also serve Holon and Bat Yam; and Ben-Gurion Airport. Four trains an hour are planned for the Kfar Sava and Petah Tikva lines and one an hour from the airport terminal. There will also be new rail spurs to Rehovot and to the new city being built at Modi'in.
- The Tel Aviv suburban system will link up with a "light railway" being considered for Tel Aviv and for a Tel Aviv-Rishon Lezion line. This would consist of a streetcar-like system running through the city streets.
- The Ayalon cutting will serve as the spine for urban and interurban rail traffic in Tel Aviv. A number of stations are planned in the city, from the university area in the north to the area of the new Central Bus Station in the south. If Tel Aviv ever gets its own rail system, it would tie in with the suburban system.
- The Haifa area will have two commuter lines – the existing one between Kiryat Motzkin and Haifa, and a new one to Kiryat Ata.
- Electrification of the entire system between Nahariya and Tel Aviv, as well as the Tel Aviv and Haifa suburban systems, will begin as soon as double tracking is completed. Modern electric trains will replace the existing diesel ones, making the service quieter and less polluting. Two to three years will be required to complete electrification, once work on it is begun.
- Beersheba will continue to be served by a single-track line for budgetary reasons, but the line will be improved to handle passenger trains and it will be extended into the heart of the city. This line will not be electrified, also for budgetary reasons, but will receive diesel trains from northern lines that are electrified. The Beersheba line will be extended to Dimona. Frequency at peak times between Beersheba and Tel Aviv will be three or four trains an hour.
- Ashdod and Ashkelon are not on the passenger railway map for the year 2000 but this will come, in time.
- Eilat will not be included in the current national rail plan, until a final decision is made about where to move Eilat's port, Shenzur says. Apart from passenger service, a prime purpose of the Eilat line would be to move freight. The positioning of the port is therefore a vital question.
- Jerusalem – Initial plans to build a new rail line via Beit Horon that would make the trip between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv only 30 minutes long were shelved because of the $500 million cost. Present thinking is to upgrade the existing line, so as to permit a trip in 50 minutes. However, the expense of even a modest upgrading, along with the existence of an excellent bus service between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, makes the Jerusalem line a low priority.
- Rights-of-way will be preserved for rail links with neighboring countries, including the line to Damascus via Tzemah and El Hama. Planners suggest the possibility of a line between the Jordanian phosphate works, south of the Dead Sea, to a future Israeli line to Eilat and Akaba. The line to Egypt could, in time, be renewed, via Ashkelon, Gaza and Rafiah. The right-of-way to Lebanon is still easily discernible on the coast at Rosh Hanikra.
- Train stations will be served by frequent buses and provided with ample parking, as part of an integrated transportation system.

Shenzur says the four million train passengers last year will become 30m. to 40m. by 2010, "if we get the budget we ask for."

So, budget permitting, all aboard for the 21st century.



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Ministry of Immigrant Absorption - Employment Department

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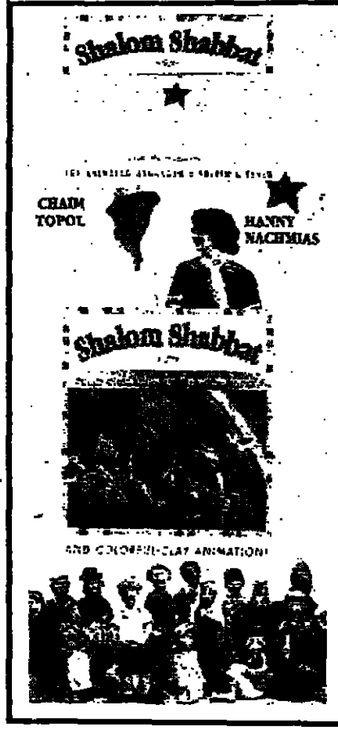

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How 'Time' uses an incident to indict a nation

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

IN what must be an unprecedented step, *Time* magazine took an incident which made news neither in Israel nor – as far as could be determined – anywhere else, and turned it into a cause célèbre, an example of how brutally Israel oppresses the Palestinians. That *Time* knew of the incident at all was only because of the involvement of Palestinian *Time* reporter Jamil Hamad.

But even if Hamad's version of the event is to be believed, the story does not warrant a single line in a major news magazine. The only reason it was published is that it defames Israelis.

Nor was the story merely reported. Deeming the event too momentous to be lost in the news pages, editor James R. Gaines dedicates the magazine's whole first page to it. Appearing under the rubric "To Our Readers," it is signed by the editor himself.

The report relates an alleged altercation exclusively through the testimony of one side – a textbook example of what journalists must never do. But Gaines sees no fault in it. On the contrary.

Stating that while most of the time reporters have to rely "on other people's accounts of an event," this time, since the reporter himself is involved, "the truth... comes home... with painful certainty."

Here is *Time*'s story: One evening, Hamad was having dinner with his family when they heard shouting outside. Two men were yelling obscenities in American-accented English, threatening to kill the Hamads.

"Both men were brandishing pistols, one was throwing rocks at the house. At one point, the Hamads heard three shots. As it later emerged, the men were Israeli settlers whose car had been stoned nearby. They claimed to the police that the perpetrator had run into the Hamads' garden."

(It takes no detective work to discern *Time*'s slant. Unlike the American-accented settlers – those lousy foreigners – who *claimed* they saw something, the Hamads "heard three shots.")

But let's go on. The settlers are suddenly joined by eight soldiers, and Hamad comes out. One of the settlers approaches his door and smashes its glass pane with his knee while the soldiers stand by, doing nothing.

"The settler then punched Hamad in the chest. Neither of the soldiers made a move to restrain the settler. Hamad's wife Raeda approached, and the settler struck her in the chest. Again the soldiers did not react."

(This punch to the woman's chest, sure to rile every decent reader, is not left to the imagination. In an accompanying photograph in the center of the page, Mrs. Hamad demonstrates on her husband's chest how she was punched.)

The soldiers then allow the settlers to leave. When one of the Hamads questions their failure to arrest the settlers, the soldiers answer: "This is Israel, not the United States!"

Half an hour later, the area commander arrives and takes down Hamad's testimony. The army's liaison to the foreign press calls and solicitously assures the Hamads that OC Central Command Ilan Biran will hear about the incident.

Five police officers arrive to photograph the scene and assess the damage to the door. They take testimonies and question the eight soldiers. The same night, the two settlers are arrested, and the army promises an investigation of the soldiers' behavior....

WHAT, THEN, is the point of the story? Thousands are dying in war in Bosnia and Rwanda. Disease is decimating Eastern Europe (according to the cover story of the same issue), and 70 journalists lost their lives in the past year's hostilities around the globe.

With all that, does a broken glass pane at a reporter's home warrant a page addressed "To Our Readers" by *Time*'s managing editor?

Gaines's purpose is soon revealed: "The [Israeli] authorities are not always so responsive in such cases," he writes, and follows with a paragraph about the Israeli human-rights group B'Tselem, which released a report "documenting 62 killings of Palestinians by Israeli civilians in the occupied territories over the previous six years."

(He doesn't mention that this includes 29 killed by Baruch Goldstein, nor that the period is the time of the intifada, during which almost 1,000 Arabs and 200 Jews were killed by Palestinians.)

"According to B'Tselem, security forces have demonstrated 'protracted impotence' in combating settler violence, while the judiciary has been "extremely lenient," Gaines continues.

Needless to say, Gaines does not mention one particularly lenient sentence – life in prison – imposed on a settler found guilty of killing an Arab terrorist when there was no danger to his life.

Nor does *Time* mention that the flagrant perjury committed by Palestinian witnesses during the inquiry into the Hebron massacre, which made a mockery of their previous testimony to B'Tselem officials, raised questions about the credibility of all B'Tselem evidence, most of which relies on Arab witnesses.

In the end, Gaines again explains the piece's raison d'être.

"Hamad's experience came to light and prompted some official reaction, mostly because he and his son are journalists. But the real significance of the episode lies in the broader pattern it reflects. Similar things – and worse – happen to all too many Palestinians who lack the relative protection Hamad enjoys."

On reading this moving ode to the magazine's sense of proportion, Haifa reader Len Green sent the following letter to *Time*:

"...So your reporter Jamil Hamad was punched and his wife struck in the chest: If the facts are unbiased and true, I agree that this behavior and the accompanying bad language was disgusting. "I trust that in future we shall see equivalent full front-page articles on the much more frequent occasions when Israelis are blown to pieces or hacked to death with axes, or their children mowed down by automatic gunfire, by Arabic-accented "Palestinians," with or without epithets of "Death to all Jews."

GREEN'S PROVISO about facts being "unbiased and true" is not misplaced. The following is an affidavit by M. (Since the case is not yet closed, his full name is not being divulged.) He is a diffident, highly respected resident of Efrat.

"On Thursday, June 16, at about 8:30 in the evening, I was traveling with a passenger from Jerusalem to Efrat, where I live. Just at house #15, about 1 km before Dahaishe, a cinder block was thrown through my windshield and shattered it.

"I saw the boy who threw it. I and the passenger got out of the car about 50 meters from the house and began to chase him. We saw him disappear near house #15. My passenger continued toward the house. I stayed near the car. He threw several rocks toward the house.

"At about this time, a group of soldiers arrived, and the inhabitants came out of the house and started cursing me and my passenger. We then returned to my car and continued to Efrat. The guard at the gate asked if the windshield had just been shattered. When I replied yes, he said he would phone in a report....

"At a little before 2 o'clock in the morning, I and my family were awakened by police and several jeeps with soldiers in full battle gear. I was told by the police that due to a complaint filed by the Arabs, I was accused of assault on the Arabs, of destroying their property and shooting at them. I denied it all. At this point, my family was terrified.

"I was at the police station until 6:45 a.m., undergoing questioning. I freely handed over my personal weapon for inspection. It has not been fired for over six months.

"After the questioning was over, I requested that the investigating officer open a file for the attempted murder upon myself. He said that unless I could give a full description of the stonethrower and swear as to exactly where he fled, he would not open a file against my assailant and would not return to the area to investigate...

"Three days after my arrest, my personal weapon was returned. I was told unofficially that I had been cleared...

"During the whole time of arrest and questioning, I was denied access to legal advice. The police repeatedly demanded that I take part in a lineup before the accusing Arabs.

The police now admit unofficially that all the Arab testimony was deliberate lies, and that I, in fact, had committed no crime, no assault, and did not fire my personal weapon, licensed to me for self-defense by the police."

Similar testimony about the incident was given by the passenger, who had this to add about the *Time* report:

"Among the items that were incorrect [in *Time*] were 1) our alleged use of expletives; 2) our alleged use of guns. In fact, there was no use of any firearms at any time. The army returned our guns after definitive ballistic tests which proved they had not been used; 3) our alleged "punching" of Raeda Hamad. Nobody remembers seeing this woman who appears in the article. She was also not referred to in the soldiers' report."

According to the police, the Hamads did not complain of assault when the police first arrived. The stories of punches came later.

Clearly, the only persons whose lives were really endangered were the passengers in the car. (A rock thrown at a windshield is a lethal weapon. In the US, teenagers who threw rocks at moving vehicles were sentenced to 20 and 40 years in prison.) The man who could have been killed chased his assailant, throwing rocks after him which may have shattered a glass pane in a house toward which the attacker ran.

It is also clear that the settlers neither brandished nor fired guns. None of the soldiers saw the settler punch anyone, let alone Mrs. Hamad. So much for the "painful certainty" of first-hand reports by *Time* reporters.

Gaines has the right to believe only his own man and assume that all the soldiers, police investigators and settlers conspired to lie. But only a magazine whose political agenda dominates its news judgment would willfully fail to report what all these people have to say, and only an editor with a touch of malice could use a minor incident to indict a whole nation.

Whom the Belz told

VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

"THE Bessemer Rebbe forbids his followers to come to Israel," blared the banner headline in all our newspapers, which was trumpeted by all our electronic-media announcers.

...

Relax, you rebbe-hating "Zionists" ready to pounce on those "draft-dodging *dossim* [religious]" and you rebbe-loving Jews ready to pounce on us "antisemitic journalists": There was no such headline; the Bessemer Rebbe issued no ban; there is no such rebbe.

But if some hassidic rebbe, mitnagdic rav, or Sephardi *hacham* issued such a ban, I wager that it would indeed get that kind of play in our patriotic news media – unlike the play given the call the Jerusalem-based Belz rebbe, Rabbi Yissachar Dov Rokeah, issued to his hassidim in the Diaspora to come and live in Israel.

Rokeah, a member of the Agudat Yisrael Council of Torah Sages, issued the call on June 21 in Antwerp, where he was participating in the dedication of an educational center his followers built.

The rebbe's words were those of a typical *shlillat haGola* (Diaspora-negating) Israeli. In fact, they were almost identical to the words that so irked the Diaspora "leaders," to whom President Ezer Weizman repeated them several times during last week's two-day "Dialogue with the President" at Beit Hanassi.

(The concept of *shlillat haGola* says that Diaspora Jewry's sole ultimate task is to come and settle in Israel; that those who remain in the Diaspora are destined to disappear as Jews, as a result of either murderous antisemitism or assimilation; moreover, on moral grounds, Jews ought not to be living and building Jewish communal institutions and organizations in the Diaspora.)

Some local newspapers ignored the Itim Israel News Agency report of the rebbe's remarks. One major morning newspaper gave it a certain second-degree prominence on one of its inside pages on Thursday; *The Jerusalem Post* gave it similar prominence, together with a comment by an expert on Hassidism, on one of its local-news pages last Friday.

To recall just a couple of the most piercing bits of the rebbe's remarks:

"...What are you doing *here? Eretz Yisrael* is where you belong!... There are countries like Belgium that are hospitable and treat the Jews well. But only so long as the Jews consider themselves guests and behave as such... Without doubt there is no better place for a Jew to live in than Eretz Yisrael..."

I don't think it was put better by such arch-Diaspora negators as philosopher Jacob Klatzkin and David Ben-Gurion, or by President Weizman.

RABBI ROKEAH'S call is a revolutionary one in the history of Belz Hassidism, whose previous heads, like nearly the entire pre-World War II European haredi world, were vehemently anti-Zionist.

It is somewhat less revolutionary in the world of Hassidism in general.

Some hassidic leaders early on supported the Jewish resettlement of Eretz Yisrael, encouraged their followers to participate and in a few – too few – instances did so themselves, at the head of groups of their flocks.

Official Zionist historiography, which refers to the arrival of a small group of Biluim in 1881 as "the First Aliya," is a usurpatory one. In fact, the first relatively large group of Jews to settle here in modern times were the 300 hassidim – men, women and children – who arrived here 217 years ago this summer led by Rabbi Avraham Hacohen Katz of Kolyazki (Kaliska) and Rabbi Menahem Mendel of Vitebsk, disciples of the movement's founder, Rabbi Yisrael Ba'al Shem Tov.

Note well: men, women and children. Families come to live here. Not just old men and women come to die and be buried here, as the stereotypography has it.

"This is the day we have hoped for," a leading member of the group, Rabbi Yisrael of Polotzk, wrote to Vitebsk soon after their arrival. "We shall rejoice with our precious Land, the object of all affections, ... which is holy with every variety of sanctity, rich in numerous fruits and other delights, rich in all the *mitzvot* that can be observed only here."

Actually, the hassidic aliya had begun three decades earlier. Shortly before Rosh Hashana 5506 (1746), Rabbi Avraham Gershon of Kutow (Kuty) arrived here with his wife and young children, settling first in Safed, then in Jerusalem.

He is believed to have come at the behest of Rabbi Yisrael Ba'al Shem Tov, his brother-in-law, to propagate Hassidism here.

These groups were well received by the Jews already here, predominantly those of the Sephardi liturgy, who, like the Hassidim, were Kabbala-orientated, and they were soon intermarrying with them. They were also welcomed by their new Arab and Druse neighbors. This inspired many other Hassidim in Europe to start organizing to follow suit.

Before they could do so, however, the Polish authorities, fearing that a sudden large-scale departure of Jews would undermine the economy, prohibited their departure.

When this restriction was lifted some years later, large groups of Habad/Lubavitch Hassidim started coming, settling mainly in Hebron and Jerusalem.

In the past century and a half, rabbis and Hassidim of such dynasties as Lelov, Kotzk, Kozmir, Suchaczew, Kozhnitz (Kozienice) and Drohobycz also figured prominently among pre-State and even pre-Herzlian supporters and personal implementers of Jewish resettlement in Eretz Yisrael.

These were rare exceptions, however: Most of the pre-war European haredi leadership – Hassidim, Mitnagdim and other pietists – vigorously opposed Zionism, and many of them even discouraged their followers from going to the "Zionist-contaminated" Holy Land.

After World War II, however, many rebbes who survived the Holocaust established their bases, or at least strong branches, here.

THIRTY YEARS ago I heard a lovely story about the Klausenberg rebbe, Rabbi Yekutiel Halberstam, who died here two weeks ago.

At the time, he was based in New York but spent long periods in Netanya, where he was overseeing the construction of a large residential complex for his followers – the Kiryat Sanz quarter – and Laniado Hospital.

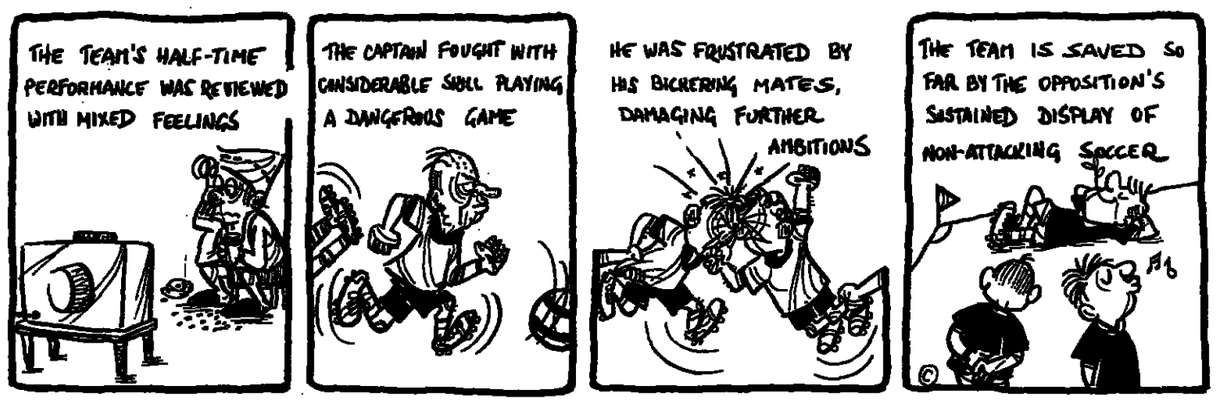
One Saturday night, a hassid, who had arrived from New York on Thursday to spend Shabbat with the rebbe, came to him distraught.

That was his first visit here, and he had been shocked by the sight of the immodestly dressed people walking to the beach on Shabbat, and by all the cars on the road on the holy day.

The rebbe told his unhappy Hassid:

"My, my: You only arrived on Thursday, and already you have managed to catch more sin than I have in all the years that I have been coming here. I suppose I have been too preoccupied with my projects to keep my eyes on those sinful streets."

SRULIK by DOSH



Listen to every voice, even the smallest

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"Pinhas is the only one who zealously took up My cause among the Israelites and turned my anger away from them, so that I did not consume the children of Israel in my jealousy. Therefore tell him that I have given him My covenant of peace." (Num. 25:11-12)

NO biblical figure is so identified with zealotry as is Pinhas.

He steps forth in the closing verses of last week's portion at a particularly critical hour, when the harlotry between the Israelites and the daughters of foreign nations was proving to be a far greater danger to Jewish existence than any attempt of a sorcerer like Balak to curse the Jews could ever be.

What spurs Pinhas to action is an act of fornication between a prince of Israel and a Midianite woman that takes place virtually in sight of the entire nation.

Unable to contain his moral rage, and in the absence of action by anyone else (including Moses), Pinhas thrusts his spear into the couple as they lie entwined.

Lest we be turned off by the horror of this spectacle, the opening verses of this week's portion – named for Pinhas himself – seem unequivocally to establish the heroism of the zealot.

But not all the talmudic sages were so generous with their accolades.

There are many who protested Pinhas's action, since his swift performance – overlooking the slower path of due process and court trial – flouted a crucial element of the Mosaic system of justice.

What happens at a trial, and why is it so important? And what is there about zealotry that is antithetical to justice?

Essentially, a trial allows the judges to hear another side to a story, another version of reality.

No matter how balanced one considers oneself to be, the introduction of other points of view inevitably turns black-and-white sketches of events into full-fledged portraits.

A fascinating law in Tractate *Sanhedrin* rules that in a murder trial, if all 23 judges declare a defendant guilty, he goes free.

Unlike the jury system in America, where a unanimous verdict is considered praiseworthy, in Jewish law unanimity is considered suspect.

After all, if not even one judge takes a minority position of dissent, how can we be sure the defendant was given an adequate opportunity to have his side expressed?

According to the Midrash, the prophet Elijah is identified with Pinhas, since he acted zealously against the 400 prophets of Baal, killing them without trial for leading the nation astray. And Elijah receives a message from God which poetically confirms the necessity of a dissenting voice.

After his victory against the heathen prophets, Elijah inexplicably desires his soul to be taken. He flees to Sinai, contemplating the futility of his prophetic mission.

God commands that Elijah stand upon the mountain: "A great and strong wind rent the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces... but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire, a small still voice..." (1 Kings 19: 11-13)

What are we to make of this small still voice?

One approach is to consider a well-known talmudic narrative that describes how the schools of Hillel and Shammai had been disputing for three years until a *bat kol* from heaven was heard. (B.T. *Eruvin* 13b)

A "divine voice" is the usual translation of *bat kol*, but its literal meaning is "daughter of a voice," suggesting something tender, gentle; a voice which might otherwise be overlooked.

And what this "small still voice" says is that the schools of Hillel and Shammai are both exponents of the living God, but the law shall follow the school of Hillel.

The sages ask: If both schools are exponents of the living God, why does the law follow Hillel? And the reply: The Hillelites are modest and gentle, and before they voice their own opinion, they express the opinion of their opponents. In effect, the message of the *bat kol* is the message of respect and humility toward the other opinion.

In our Oral Law, both majority and minority legal views are recorded. That is why, among all the texts available in the Jewish library, the study of Talmud is considered the classic path for an authentic understanding of our tradition. The Mishna and Gemara are not a legal compendium listing one legal decision after another, but rather a collection of living dialogues and debates.

Indeed, the Mishna itself (*Eduyot*, Ch. 1, Mishna 5) explains that the reason for including minority opinions is because no halachic view can be nullified completely; any later Sanhedrin can choose to adopt the minority view of any earlier Sanhedrin.

Thus, retaining the minority view – in effect the pursuit of listening – is a vital force in the survival of Judaism.

And, although the Torah seemingly honors Pinhas, we must remember that he is given the "covenant of peace." Ordinarily, peace is held up alongside truth (*shalom v'emet*).

They are similar, but hardly the same. The basic difference is that, when the major interest is truth, one monolithic opinion prevails. Right is right, and wrong is wrong. There is nothing to negotiate concerning the molecular structure of oxygen.

But peace is not a one-sided issue. It requires negotiation, listening to and attempting to satisfy all individuals.

God does not give Pinhas a "covenant of truth" – he is, after all, zealously certain of the rightness of his cause.

Instead, God teaches Pinhas the necessity of a "covenant of peace" – the ability to listen and negotiate, to hear every voice – a critical quality for a nation in pursuit of justice.

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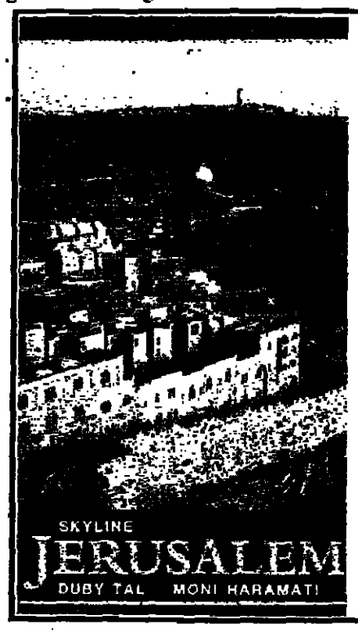

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Plane space is not enough

Haim Shapiro hears about the advantages of privatizing airports from visiting Austrians who want to do business with Israel

NOBODY would ever think of going to Ben-Gurion Airport for a date. The airport is a place to pass through as quickly as possible.

But it doesn't have to be that way. Vienna International Airport, for example, has been transformed into what its president, Frank Kotrba, calls an "airport city, with a different ambience from that of any airport in Europe."

Kotrba was one of the top executives, a delegation of eight, who visited Israel this week, to talk tourism, trade and related business. His airport is one of the few in the world that has been privatized.

Kotrba said he had talked with the heads of El Al and Arkia, as well as Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar, about improving air traffic between the two countries. At present, he said, El Al has three or four flights a week to Vienna and Austrian Airlines has five flights.

"My aim is that each should have a daily flight," he said.

By using Vienna Airport, he said, El Al could complete its expansion into Eastern Europe, by working with Austrian Airlines, which has the most extensive network of flights to Eastern Europe in the world. For example, he said, on days when El Al does not have a direct flight to Minsk, it could coordinate its flight to Vienna with that of an Austrian Airlines flight to the capital of Ukraine.

The expansion into Eastern Europe has come since 1989, he noted. Until then, Vienna Airport had some 3.5 million passengers a year, while last year about 11 million passengers passed through.

Kotrba notes that in 1992 the airport was privatized, which made it more oriented toward its customers. Like other airports, Vienna Airport still charges an airport tax, he admitted, but now the management is far more concerned with giving passengers value for their money.

At the Vienna Airport World Trade Center, there are 13 restaurants and bars, which have a large clientele of locals as well as passengers. There are over 50 shops, also for the general public as well as travelers, Kotrba said.

This year the first airport department store, a branch of London's Harrods, is due to open at the WTC, again for the general public. The WTC is to begin work on its second hotel shortly.

"AIRPORTS CAN be good business," said Kotrba, who said that when the taxpayer pays to maintain an airport, management is less responsive to customers' demands. London and Copenhagen have privatized airports, and other countries in Europe and Latin America are considering the idea.

Commenting on airport privatization, Hugo Marom, an internationally recognized Israeli airport planner and architect, said that the advantages of privatization were significant. But in his view, it was up to the state to underwrite the infrastructure for takeoffs and landings and safety provisions.

When a government body runs an airport, he said, there is a tendency to try to profit from concessionaires in order to repay basic development investment. With privatization, he said, one had two businesses talking to each other.

Marom said the Airports Authority tended to use the income generated by Ben-Gurion Airport to maintain the less profitable airports, thus preventing the natural development of business at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Airports Authority spokesman Yehiel Amitai said that the Austrian group had spoken with Airports Authority director-general Motti Debi, but the Authority saw no need for privatization.

The Airports Authority took no money from the government, and even planned to finance the proposed major expansion of Ben-Gurion Airport through international loans, he said.

The Austrians were interested in the contract for the new terminal, Amitai said, but Debi had made it clear to them that the contract would be awarded through an open international tender. The president of the Vienna Airport World Trade Center, property-developer and lawyer Georg Katcz, who is also president of the Israel-Austria Chamber of Commerce (and a prominent contributor to Tel Aviv University), organized the delegation's visit.

Another participant was Gerhard Randa, deputy chairman of Bank Austria, the largest bank in the country and one which Randa compared to Bank Hapoalim with its many subsidiaries engaged in a wide range of activities.

Randa said the group was very optimistic about new opportunities for business ventures as a result of the peace process.

The end of the Cold War opened new markets and Austria has become a gateway to Eastern Europe.

Today, Randa said, the Austrians are interested in working together with Israelis in developing third markets, particularly in such countries as the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia.

The Austrians are also interested in using Israeli know-how, especially that of such groups as Bank Hapoalim, Clal and Koor, in the Middle East.

Katcz noted that the visitors had met "with a very large number of people in a short time," people at the very top, starting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The initial contacts will be followed up by working groups, he said.

Austrian property developer Georg Katcz hopes to promote cooperation between major European and Israeli groups. (Harari)

When big talkers talk really big: Landing the pie in the sky

Dreamers of impossible dreams got together in Spain this week to discuss how to change people's lives by spending at least $1b., **Andrew Kircher** reports

FOR anyone who has ever daydreamed about building the world's tallest skyscraper or digging the longest tunnel, the bizarre "Super-projects" conference is the place to be.

The third annual meeting, held this week in Barcelona's Villa Olympica, brought together 200 dreamers, consultants and executives from all over the world to talk big – really big.

To qualify as a bonafide super-project, a plan must cost at least $1 billion. It should also affect the local economy, enhance the environment and improve the quality of life.

Projects already under way include Hong Kong's new $16 billion airport complex and a $27b. water scheme in Libya.

Still on the drawing board is a plan to build a tunnel linking Europe and Africa via the Gibraltar Straits. There are ideas for seawater desalting systems, gene-mapping projects and the development of bacteria that can neutralize toxic waste.

One of the most bizarre ideas comes from New York lawyer Michael Lacher who wants to buy Siberia in order to exploit its natural resources.

"The concept is not farfetched," he said. "After all, Russia once owned Alaska and we didn't have any trouble absorbing it. Once upon a time, they called that colonialism, but I don't think it's colonialism."

If buying part of Russia proves a bit tricky, Arizona engineer George Koumal says building a $37b. tunnel under the Bering Straits would at least link the area to America.

Koumal has funding from the state of Alaska and has already spent $250,000 on drawing up plans.

The money did not stretch to a feasibility study but he is convinced the project would boost global trade and lift morale on both sides of the Pacific Ocean.

"It would again be possible to say in the US: 'Go West, young man.' And in Russia, it would be possible to say: 'Go East, young man.'"

A mixture of idealism and hard-headed realism fires the minds behind the dreams.

Super-projects "will produce new wonders of the world to thrill and inspire the world's people. They will improve world morale. But most importantly, they will be built in order to meet the basic needs of humanity," said McKinley Conway.

Conway is a former US senator from Georgia and current chairman of the Atlanta-based, non-profit World Development Council (WDC), which sponsored the conference.

"New global super-projects will pump up our economies and create jobs," he added.

The WDC counts among its members US engineering-and-construction group Bechtel International, Boeing Co and Korea's Daewoo Corporation. It distributes information on some 1,000 projects worldwide, each costing at least $1b.

Around one-third are still only ideas; plans are being drawn up for another third, and the rest are already under way.

SOME OF those in Barcelona were drawn by the scent of possible lucrative contracts, especially for construction firms.

"I came to network, to see what projects are going on around the world," said Tony Williams of British-based WT Partnership, a construction management and cost-consultant group.

He had made four or five good contacts and said: "If I leave here with that kind of hit, I'll be happy."

Some project managers came to learn how others deal with growing environmental, political and economic challenges.

Boaz Wachtel of the human-rights group Freedom House criticized some of the ideas for bringing badly needed water to the Middle East, saying they ignored regional politics, and put forward his own proposal for a "Peace Water Pipeline."

This would channel water from a Turkish lake and divide it evenly between Israel, the Palestinians, Syria and Jordan.

Super-project managers are getting better at turning dreams into reality, but they have room to learn, said the director of special projects at London-based Bovis International.

Peter Morris said 99 percent of the projects he studied in the mid-1980s cost more than their original price tag, and management teams who overlooked potential conflicts, such as environmental challenges, were often to blame.

"If we are to manage our projects successfully, we have to change our focus. We have to manage our projects at a more strategic level," he said.

With the world population expected to grow by one billion over the next decade, more super-projects are needed to meet growing basic needs, Conway said.

"Those who think about world programs must think big, very big. We must undertake the greatest development program in the history of the world," he said.

Big is the key word for next year's meeting in Japan, where the Shimizu Corporation wants to build the "City of the Future" – a huge pyramid that could house one million people.

Another Japanese plan aims to construct a 300-story skyscraper which would dwarf Chicago's Sears Tower, currently the world's tallest building with 110 floors.

"There is that one-upmanship," Conway said.

"But I don't think anybody would feel comfortable living or working that high up."

(Reuter)

Pssst... Want to trade your rubles for hot shares?

It seems that just about every comrade in the former communist heartland is becoming a shareholder, **Elif Kaban** writes

IN the shadow of colored awnings outside a metro station on one of Moscow's wide avenues, crowds of shabbily-dressed "briefcase traders" are peddling their wares.

While other traders are selling "seks" magazines and condoms that glow in the dark, these street dealers are catering for another basic instinct – buying shares.

After 70 years of communism, Russians from all walks of life are becoming shareholders – and one needs to look no further than the occasional busy street corner to find them.

"Stocks? Everyone wants to buy them, you know, everyone," says Lyuba, a stocky Russian housewife dressed in a crumpled tailored suit, gray nylon stockings and white plastic shoes.

Lyuba is not your average share trader.

A stern matron of 45 with two sons, she sets up shop daily on the street, next to a square presided over by a giant statue of former Soviet leader Lenin.

On display on her camping table are brightly colored stocks from carmakers to investment firms. Lyuba says she makes 10 percent profit on average sales of 500,000 rubles (NIS 750) a day.

Lyuba – "Call me 'dealer' " – lights up a rough cigarette, puffs away the smoke. "I tell people to think long-term. I believe in the future of this market," she says. "We make spot deals here, everything is in cash."

A student in jeans, his long greasy hair pulled back into a pony tail, asks: "What can I buy with 40,000 rubles (NIS 60)?" Next to him a bespectacled pensioner wrinkles his nose as he tries to decide which stock to buy.

Lyuba offers the share of a bakery. "Good buy. They will pay dividends soon." The prospectus? A shocking question. "I've been selling these for months but haven't seen a single prospectus."

HOW ABOUT Mafia-style groups, which have penetrated to the core of business and political life in post-communist Russia?

Lyuba clicks her tongue, glancing around nervously to see if anyone is in earshot.

"Not to worry," she says. "We pay weekly."

"The guys who come round to collect money are cultured and educated. We pay protection money, the Mafia lets us work."

"I've been doing this for half a year now," Lyuba adds, grinning. "My business is growing. Of course, it's risky to buy these shares, but walking on the streets of Moscow is risky too."

Welcome to emerging capitalist Russia, where millions of investors are jumping on a share bandwagon to make a fortune or simply protect their ruble savings from inflation.

Recent statistics show consumer demand and real incomes have risen for the first time since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Gloomy statistics pointing to disaster in the state-run economy mask the bright spots.

The loser industries are sinking fast, but the booming private sector is evading the taxman.

Millions have invested in thousands of privatized firms after receiving free vouchers in 1992 to be swapped for shares.

After vouchers go out of circulation on July 1, the state will start selling chunks of shareholdings for cash from its multi-billion-dollar sell-off program.

Despite many scams, the over-the-counter trading is growing with a dozen brokerages and banks emerging as active players.

From nil, over-the-counter market capitalization has grown to the equivalent of $200 million in two years, bankers say.

The overall market capitalization is the equivalent of $2.3 billion. Many companies sell for a fraction of their earnings.

Hot tips usually come from company directors themselves who engage in shares in a country which has no insider trading laws.

The market has no benchmark prices, let alone computerized trading or common regulation. A planned computer market modeled on the US Nasdaq system may iron out some of the problems.

Privatization has brought a flood of enquiries from foreign investors and adventure funds looking for bargains in Russia.

But many privatized firms are junk in investment terms and few make profits.

Most shares are illiquid. The aftermarket generally dies down once a group of investors, usually the managers themselves, have bought a controlling stake in the firm.

President Boris Yeltsin is expected to issue new decrees imposing disclosure and listing requirements for share issuers.

But no one expects a quick miracle. Few Russian firms have accountants to keep detailed books and are hostile not only towards outside shareholders but to questions as well.

"We are trying to understand this market, but as usual, the answer in Russia is no one really knows," says Philippe Der Megreditchian, an analyst of the $66m. Russian Investment Fund set up by London-based Framlington investment managers.

As Framlington's fund warns in its prospectus, Russian equity deals involve "political and economic risks, currency risks and risks attributable to the lack of a market economy, lack of a securities market and likely business failures."

And then there are crooks and gangsters. Many investment funds, officials say, are just selling air. Last year, a fund called Tekhnichesky Progress promised 500 percent annual return, attracted 300,000 investors and then disappeared.

Another fund that went bust was the Independent Oil Concern, promising 1,050% annual dividend. It turned out to be a couple equipped with a flat, a telephone and forged passports.

"There are two main concerns when you're investing in Russia – first, is your investment profitable and sound?" said Der Megreditchian. "Second, which Mafia group controls the company? KGB connections would certainly help." (Reuter)

CommStock Trading Ltd.

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: All CommStock Staff
FROM: David Zwebner, President

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Harry Aloof, veteran successful commodity trading advisor and columnist, has joined the company as Senior Investment Advisor. Harry has served as a financial consultant for Shearson Lehman Hutton as well as advisor to some of Israel's largest banking institutions and has published various market research reports.

Harry will edit the CommStock Special Situations Report, each edition of which will be devoted to a concise, in-depth analysis of a particular market situation and the special opportunities it creates. The Report's trading recommendations on stocks, currencies and commodities are based on sophisticated studies covering over two decades of market research which Harry has carried out.

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Information and Public Relations

Return of classical attacks

CHESS
NIGEL DAVIES

THE first round of the Professional Chess Association World Championship eliminators was held recently in the Trump Tower in New York.

Viswanathan Anand and Gata Kamsky registered convincing victories over Oleg Romanishin and Vladimir Kramnik respectively.

The other two matches, Nigel Short against Boris Gulko and Michael Adams against Sergei Tiviakov, were tied after the scheduled eight games, but the two Englishmen won the quickplay play-offs.

Gulko, who lived briefly in this country before going on to the US, was particularly unfortunate in that he took ill during the final stages of his match. With a temperature of 39°C he quickly agreed to draws in the play-off games in which he was White, which of course is a serious concession in such a contest.

Short, as he demonstrated in his match with Gary Kasparov, is very dangerous with the White pieces, playing the kind of classical attacking chess that has all but gone out of style. Kasparov's favorite Sicilian Najdorf looked slightly less appetizing after Short repeatedly went after it with the meat cleaver, so Gulko prepared the ultra-solid Caro-Kann Defense with the fashionable 4...Nd7.

But even this doesn't guarantee safety against such a determined attacker as Short demonstrated in the third game.

Short,N - Gulko,B
Caro-Kann Defense
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7

A firm favorite of Anatoly Karpov, this move is all the rage at the moment. Black prepares to bring his king's knight to f6 without allowing his pawns to be doubled and manages to set up a solid defensive wall. It featured quite heavily in the PCA matches as Adams, who has played it for years, used it against Tiviakov.

Another interesting feature of this game is that Short avoids his patented 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3, which he has played with considerable success. Presumably Gulko was well prepared for that one.

5.Bc4 Ngf6 6.Ng5 e6 7.Qe2 Nb6 8.Bb3 h6 9.N5f3 a5 10.c3 c5 11.a3 Qc7 12.Nh3

Wisely diverging from the Kasparov-Karpov game in Linares this year which went 12.Ne5? cxd4 13.cxd4 after which Black could have won on the spot with 13...Bxa3! 14.bxa3 Qc3+ or 14.Rxa3 Qxc1+. Neither of them saw it, and I am amazed that the famed Kasparov preparation could give him a lost game after just 12 moves.

I suspect the reason is that Kasparov and his factory had only analyzed this position with the moves ...a5-a4 and Bb3-c2 interposed. In that case this tactic doesn't work because the bishop on c2 blocks the Black queen's passage to c1.

12...Bd7 13.0-0 Bd6?!

Losing time after White's reply. This was probably the right moment for 13...a4.

14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Bd4 Ng4?! 17.Nd2 Nf6

If Black must play this then his previous move was wrong. But 17...Bxh2+ seems to lose a piece after 18.Kh1 h5 (or 18...Nf6 19.Bxb6) 19.f3 Nf6 (19...Bg1? 20.Bxg1) 20.Bxb6 Qxb6 21.Kxh2.

18.Kh1 0-0?!

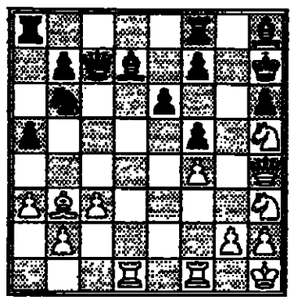
Castling into it like this seems to lose by force. Black's position is very unpleasant in any case due to the distinct lack of a safe abode for his king. But he could try to construct some sort of defense, perhaps starting with 18...a4.

19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.Qg4+ Kh7 21.Ne4 f5 22.Nf6+ Kh8 23.Qh4 Kg7 24.Rad1 Be5

What else?

25.Nh5+ Kh7 26.f4 Bh8

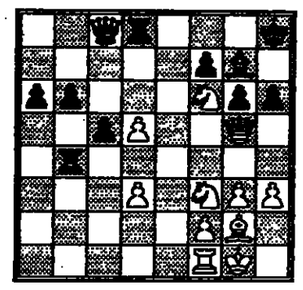
Setting the scene for a nice finish. (See diagram.)



27.Ng5+ 1-0

After 27...hxg5 the simplest move is 28.fxg5 when Black has no good defense to the threat of 29.Nf6+ Kg6 30.Qh6 mate.

THIS WEEK'S problem is from a game Purtschik-Rabkin played in 1974. White to play and win (solution beneath diagram).



Solution: White doesn't need to move his queen but can instead threaten a two knight mate with 1.Ne5!. Black played 1...Rf8 (if 1...hxg5 then 2.Nxf7+ wins as does 1...Qc7 2.Qxg6! and Black resigned because of the line 2...Bxf6 (2...fxg6 3.Nxg6 is mate) 3.Qxf6+ Kg8 4.Nc6 etc..

In their search for nectar, honeybees aid the gardener by transferring pollen from one flower to another. (Alan Auerbach)

A gardener's unpaid helpers

GARDENING
INEZ KLIMIST

BIRDS are the gardener's best friends – and you'd better believe it. We may rant and rail when they eat our grapes or take bites out of our loquats. But whatever harm they do, we should remember that they eat their weight in insects many times over.

There's a story about Frederick the Great which goes like this: He was angry about birds eating his cherries, so he ordered them shot. He offered a reward for every dead bird brought to him. In just one year, he had to rescind the order and was obliged to import sparrows, because the caterpillars were eating up all his trees, and he had no fruit at all.

Watch a few birds in your garden for an hour or so and you'll see how busy they are – especially now, when they are feeding their nestlings. They catch one insect after another, nabbing them right out of the air, pulling them up out of the grass and carrying them away. Without the birds, all those insects would be chewing up your garden.

We want to encourage birds to live in our gardens as much as we can. A bird bath is one good way to invite them to visit. Birds need to keep their feathers clean for efficient insulation, and there isn't much water around for them to wash in and drink.

Even a small flat plastic container like a supermarket meat tray will do. Just make sure to place it in an open space, protected from lurking cats.

FROGS, TOADS, and lizards, which feed exclusively on insects, earn their keep too. And if you are lucky enough to play host to a chameleon, you'll have entertainment as well as help in the garden.

There's a chameleon that visits us occasionally. Beautiful in its bright green coat, it moves around very slowly, looking for insects. When it finds one, its tongue flashes out so quickly that one cannot see it. It rarely misses.

In early spring, we also had a charming little hedgehog in our garden (which is in the middle of town). I was delighted, since hedgehogs will eat field mice and small snakes, as well as slugs, snails and crickets.

Hedgehogs are part of the porcupine family, but have much smaller quills. In the daytime, they roll themselves into a ball and hide in a cool corner, emerging to hunt during the night.

Unfortunately, my dog found our visitor one night, and barked so much that the poor little animal was frightened away and never came back.

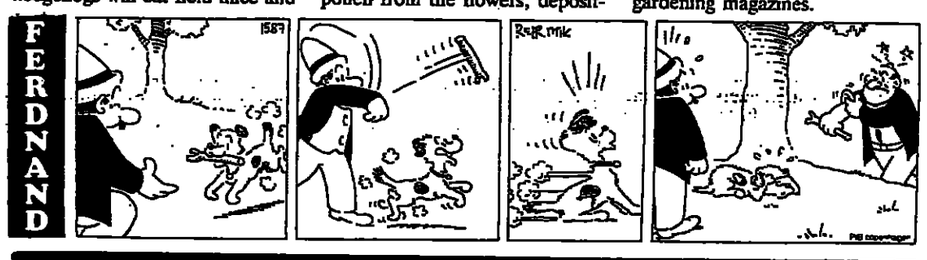
Numbered among our garden friends are several insects, too – a powerful reason to avoid chemical insecticides, which kill the good bugs right along with the bad.

Without honeybees, for example, there wouldn't be any fruit, or seeds for next summer. In their search for nectar, the bees pick up pollen from the flowers, depositing it onto the next flower they visit. They will rarely sting if they aren't bothered as they go quietly about their important business.

Ladybugs (or ladybirds) are beetles. Very attractive in their black-spotted red carapaces, they destroy aphids by the hundreds, feeding them to their young. This keeps them very, very busy, since females lay up to 600 eggs a summer and each larva will eat about 20 aphids a day.

The praying mantis, an interesting-looking insect, is an excellent hunter. Mantises can turn their heads in all directions, and have been credited with mystical powers. Quite large (commonly 10 or 11 cm) they sit very still, disguised among the leaves in their green and brown camouflage.

Suddenly, their arms whip out and – bingo! – another bug is caught. Mantises are so sought-after for killing garden bugs that their eggs are advertised in many gardening magazines.



Relaxing the bidding rules

BRIDGE
MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

West dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North
♠ A432
♡ J42
◇ J108
♣ AQJ

West
♠ 7
♡ AK983
◇ Q76
♣ K875

East
♠ QJ1095
♡ 107
◇ 543
♣ 1062

South
♠ K86
♡ Q65
◇ AK92
♣ 943

Table 1

West	North	East	South
1♡	pass	1♠	pass
2♣	(all pass)		

Table 2

West	North	East	South
1♡	pass	pass	1NT
pass	3NT	(all pass)	

THIS week I will pose a question that bidding theorists have been pondering for years: Do you really need six points to respond to an opening bid?

To answer this question, we must look back at the history of the six-point rule and with that the origin of Goren bidding methods, the main method used in the world of bridge for the last 50 years.

When the late Charles Goren promoted the idea of point-count bidding in the late 1940s, he calculated a table of point totals to determine when a partnership could make a notrump game, slam or grand slam.

Counting aces as four points, kings three, queens two and jacks one: If the combined total of a partnership is 26, it produces three notrump; if the total is 33, it produces six notrump; if 37, seven notrump. For suit contracts similar guidelines are used, with the addition of distribution points, three for a void, two for singleton and one for a doubleton.

Using this methodology, a partnership attributes specific point ranges to specific bids. For example, the opening bid of a suit at the one-level generally promises 13 to 20 points. The response at the one-level to an opening bid promises six or more points.

Over the course of the last five decades, theorists have lessened the requirements for these bids because of their inaccuracies and for tactical reasons. Since I've been playing bridge in this country, I've found that most people here believe only 23 or 24 points are needed for three notrump and only 11 points to open the bidding.

I don't recommend these principles, but in one area I have learned to differ from the original Goren ideas. When making a one-level response to the opening bid, you do not need six points. This is because if you pass your partner when you hold a long major suit, your partner may be left to play in an embarrassing one-of-a-minor contract in a three-card minor.

Another reason for responding, even with a zero-point hand (!), is that you make it more difficult for the opponents to judge their values, which could be quite substantial when you hold so little.

Today's deal demonstrates this tactic. When it was played in the final of last year's US Vanderbilt team championship, two views by the two East players created a big swing.

At Table 1, the final contract was two clubs by West. As you can see, West opened the bidding one heart, North passed and East responded one spade. South passed and West rebid two clubs, which concluded the auction. This contract went down one trick, a small loss of 50 points to North-South, who had a combined total of 25 points, and should therefore have contracted for a game. But they didn't even take one bid!

At Table 2, East made the traditional pass of one heart with his three-point hand, and South had an easy time entering the auction. South's one notrump in the balancing seat showed a 12- to 15-point hand. His partner, North, raised to three notrump and this left West on opening lead.

West began with the ace of hearts and would have done best by continuing hearts from the top. But at trick two he played a low heart, giving declarer a chance.

Seymon Deutsch, of Laredo, Texas, won the heart in his hand, took a club finesse, played a spade back to his king and took a second club finesse. Next he cashed the ace of clubs and led the jack of diamonds to the ace. A spade was led to dummy's ace, West discarding a heart, and a heart was played into the West hand. West was now endplayed; he had to lead away from his queen of diamonds at trick 12.

There was no escape for West. His only chance was to play the king of clubs under the ace on the third round of clubs, pretending to have three clubs, and then discard a diamond on the ace of spades, pretending to have four diamonds. If he did this, which is not easy, South might think that he started with four diamonds to the queen. If so, South could play a heart (as he did), trying to endplay West. But West would surprise South by cashing his fourth club for the setting trick.

West could have avoided the endplay altogether had he not left declarer a heart to exit with. West should have cashed the ace, king and a third heart after the opening lead. All this cardplay is rather difficult to see at the table, which is why, when push comes to shove, it is better for East to respond one spade with his weak hand. He may steal the contract and avoid all the headaches of a difficult defense.

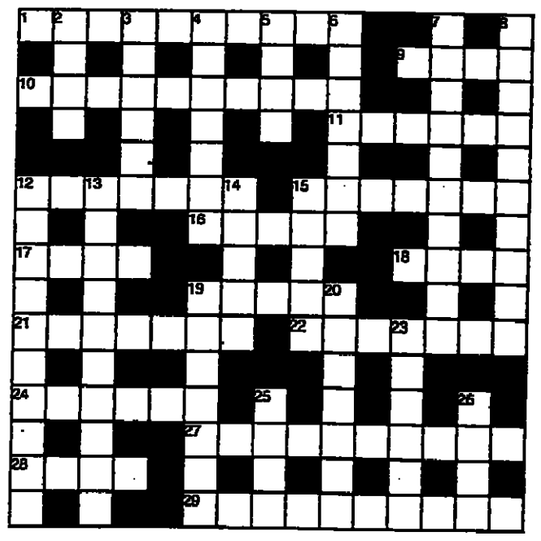
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

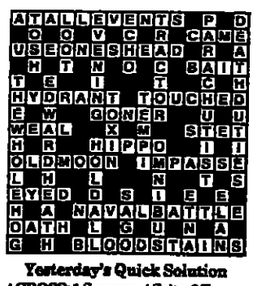
1 Lacking all joie-de-vivre without drink (10)
9 Notes there's seating available (4)
10 Expanding may result in folding! (10)
11 She's always seen in a smart hat (6)
12 A manual worker when about fifty appears more melancholy (7)
15 Put in office this month and scoffed (7)
16 Devious sort—a cook (5)
17 A sudden attack from the long grass (4)
18 Cigarette-end the schoolhead found beside the bath (4)
19 Short dash (5)
21 No-one's turned on "X". That could cause disquiet (7)
22 Make much of general misrepresentation (7)
24 Repaired footwear as listed (6)
27 Painted on a contraption in New Zealand (10)
28 The man who's made right back (4)
29 The revolt about none speculating (10)

DOWN

2 Such writers are heartless persons (4)
3 Conned again! (6)
4 The care ordered for the trainer (7)
5 Correct for the current rise (4)
6 Detectives in hard division (7)
7 A businessman set against agricultural machinery (10)
8 The guy with a beagle quite possibly finds it docile (10)
12 Dropping out of the race and so relieving irritation (10)
13 Stop succeeding! (10)
14 Steal in and get the bird (5)
15 Put out—is to go to court (5)
19 Cutting a medico, the way a social worker will do (7)
20 A photographer in a foul mood? (7)
23 Poles might have done as badly (6)
25 The affection of viewers in past years (4)
26 A graduate in deep water (4)



SOLUTIONS

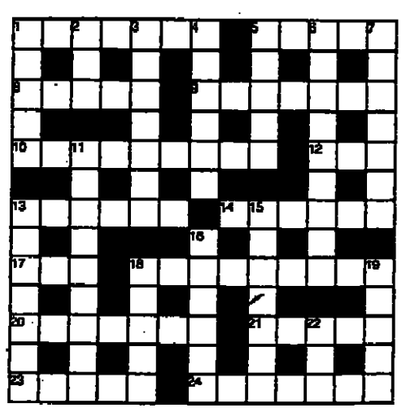


Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Summer, 4 Salts, 8 Tramp, 9 Rooster, 10 Riddled, 11 Neon, 12 Err, 14 Free, 15 Ugly, 18 Rug, 21 Talk, 23 Unleash, 25 Tabloid, 26 Basis, 27 Holly, 28 Stance.

DOWN: 1 Saturn, 2 Meander, 3 Espalier, 4 Smog, 5 Lathe, 6 Sprat, 7 Pride, 13 Gullible, 16 Liaison, 17 Stitch, 19 Guide, 20 Chaste, 22 Label, 24 Joey.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Entirely (7)
5 Cuts (5)
8 Repeatedly (5)
9 Try (7)
10 Migrant (9)
12 Musical note (3)
13 Disprove (6)
14 Remember (6)
17 Bow (3)
18 Concurrence (9)
20 Copy (7)
21 Object (5)
23 Strained (5)
24 Rushing stream (7)

DOWN

1 Characteristic (5)
2 Non-alcoholic drink (3)
3 Indulgent (7)
4 Annually (6)
5 Provide food (5)
6 Instant (9)
7 Shoulder-bag (7)
11 Fondness (9)
13 Practical person (7)
15 Voter (7)
16 Stop (6)
18 Quickly (5)
19 Taut (5)
22 Anger (3)

Caught in a web of misconceptions

NATURE
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

MANY people fear spiders, or at least have an aversion to them.

This is partly because of the way they look and partly because of fear of their bite. Even J.R.R. Tolkien related to this fear by making one of the most terrifying creatures in *Lord of the Rings*, Shelob, a giant spider-like enemy.

There are about 40,000 species of spiders, *Aranea* in Latin. They are the largest order among the *Arachnidae*, which include scorpions, pseudo-scorpions, ticks and mites.

Spiders, like other arachnids, have four pairs of legs for locomotion and a frontal pair developed for conveying food to the mouth parts or for self-grooming.

They have a sharply defined separation between the two body parts, the frontal or cephalothorax (prosoma) and the back part, the ophisthosoma or abdomen. In the male, there is a specially adapted sexual organ.

Spiders' body length ranges from less than a millimeter to as much as 10 cm. In the larger species, the leg span may be twice this. They also show an amazing range of colors. Bright green spiders are found in lettuce patches: a few meters away, a darker green spider never leaves the spinach bed. Snow-white spiders haunt Shasta daisies.

There are also black spiders, red spiders and a variety of others from gray to orange. Usually the color serves as camouflage and is adapted to the plant where they can find the mites and other insects that comprise their diet.

Almost all spiders secrete from their mouths venom to immobilize their insect prey or digestive juices to insert into the prey and aid ingestion. Spiders consume liquid food only: They suck out the liquefied contents of the insect and leave the harder cuticle.

But very few spiders have a venom that is harmful to anything larger than their natural prey. Notable is the black widow, *Latrodectus mactans*, whose bite can make an adult very ill and can even kill an infant or a debilitated person. There are a few others as well in South America and Australia, but by and large the bite of a spider may cause, at most, a temporary swelling and itching.

The spiders of which nightmares are made are those called tarantulas, a name used loosely to describe almost all large, dark, hairy spiders. Despite their fearsome appearance, they are usually harmless. But because they also have a tendency to jump when alarmed, folklore about them abounds wherever they are found.

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Maimonides slept – and studied – here

Wandering Jews discover the keys to the Moroccan kingdom, with its lavish imperial cities and spicy gefilte fish, Faye Bittker reports

Community leader Abraham Sabbagh tells the story of a saint on a tour of the Fez Jewish quarter and cemetery. (Faye Bittker)

A Moroccan cleaning lady holds the key to one of the most extraordinary sites from medieval Jewish history.

It's an unremarkable apartment with nothing in it to suggest its importance – but this is where Maimonides lived and studied as a young man in the 12th century.

The average tourist walking by the building in the old city of Fez would never know: It is in an unmarked building off a nameless, crowded, dark alleyway. Entrance is purely by chance: The apartment belongs to our guide's cleaning woman. For a small fee she is happy to let us in.

Abraham Sabbagh, our guide, is also the community's shohet, mohel, and assistant to the rabbi. Leading a group of Jewish journalists through the winding streets of the *mellah*, the former Jewish quarter, he speaks proudly of the community's past, but is clearly troubled by its uncertain future.

"I remember every family. Every house. The celebrations we had when there was a bar mitzva or when a Jewish woman was chosen Miss Fez," he says. He shakes his head sorrowfully, pointing out another house whose residents now live in Israel or France.

Dating back to the 14th century, the *mellah* was once home to 70,000 Jews. The majority of Fez Jews left after the Six Day War; today, the community numbers less than 400, including children studying abroad. The Jews have their own schools where they study in French and Hebrew; without sufficient Arabic, those interested in further education have no choice but to go abroad.

Invited by the American Jewish Congress, the Moroccan Tourist Office and Royal Air Maroc, this group of visitors is warmly received – even in the cemetery: "*Shalom aleichem*" reads the dark-blue Hebrew lettering, freshly painted on whitewashed walls. Candles burn next to the grave of *tzaddik* Yehuda ibn Atar marking it as a site of pilgrimage for those seeking a blessing or a change of fortune. Flickering signs of life in a dying community.

SABBAGH WALKS the alleys of the *mellah*, pointing out ironwork gates with Stars of David motifs and doorposts where the mezuzot have obviously been removed.

His path through the musty labyrinth ends suddenly at a sun-splashed, expansive plaza next to the golden gates of the Royal Palace.

The proximity of the *mellah* to the palace reflects the standing Jews traditionally had in Moroccan society. Protected by a long line of sultans and kings, the Jews provided key services and often income in the form of taxes for the rulers. The word *mellah* (salt) refers to the time when rulers would bring the heads of their enemies to the Jews to be rolled in salt before being displayed on the city walls.

In the 20th century, King Mohammed V earned the title "Protector of the Jews" when he refused to apply Nazi laws to the 300,000 Jews under Vichy rule in Morocco.

Moroccans are proud of the fact that their Jews have never been deported or exiled, even after the creation of the State of Israel. Furthermore, though most Jews have left the country, they are still entitled to receive citizenship and a passport.

Jewish leaders express only praise and gratitude to King Hassan II. Dr. Armand Guigui, leader of the Fez Jewish community, spoke the mantra repeated by everyone we met: "The king's magic is his skill in discreetly and effectively bringing the children of Abraham together."

He stresses that it was not by chance that Prime Minister Rabin stopped in Morocco on September 14, on his return from the White House handshake with Yasser Arafat. Or that two of the king's top advisers, Andre Azulay, special counselor for economics and communications, and the minister of tourism, Serge Berdugo, are Jews.

One look at *Le Matin*, a national French-language paper, offers insight into coexistence in the kingdom. Just above the lead story – the celebration of the crown prince's 24th birthday – is a dateline that includes the Hebrew date "11 Tamouz 5754."

WHY DID the Jews leave Morocco if they weren't forced to? Prof. Shimon Levy, general secretary of the Jewish community of Casablanca, breaks the exodus down to four waves.

The first, after the creation of the State of Israel, was primarily made up of religious people and those who had been particularly hard hit by the postwar economy in Morocco. Zionist emissaries found a willing audience.

The second exodus came in 1956 when the French pullout coincided with the Sinai Campaign. Wealthy, French-speaking Jews feared a backlash against their community.

Similarly, many Jews left in 1961 when Mohammed V died and it was not clear whether the young King Hassan II would be able to stem rising pan-Arabism.

The final wave came after the Six Day War. Again, people left because of fear of what might happen, not because of any specific event, Levy says.

This tension – between protected status and fear of unrestrained Arab nationalism – manifests itself in quiet ways. Few Jewish institutions have mezuzot or signs that can be seen from the street. A guard stands watch outside a Marrakech synagogue during Friday night prayers. A notice on a bulletin board at a Fez community center advertises a Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society summer camp with all details – except where it is taking place: an unnamed country reached "via Madrid."

All of this is in direct contrast to the rich and active daily community life. The Jewish social clubs are full every night, and the latest Israeli songs are played at weddings. "Haim Moshe cassettes are popular here," Levy notes. A Casablanca kosher restaurant called Tradition has a floor show five nights a week that starts after midnight, and it is clear that the show is not for Jews only.

Of the 7,000 Jews remaining in Morocco, 5,000 live in Casablanca. Walking down one city block thick with synagogues, one hears sounds of a melodic "Judeo-Arabe." Inside, men wearing traditional Sephardi robes study Torah; outside, Moslem women beg for charity.

Dinner Friday night with the leaders of the Marrakech Jewish community is held at a kosher restaurant in one of the new luxury hotels. Shabbat songs fill the lobby as Jackie Kadosh, the head of Habad in Marrakech and son of the late community president, encourages people to sing louder.

The crowd is a mix of Israeli businessmen of Moroccan descent and community leaders. They sing local melodies. Israeli folk songs and even Broadway show tunes. The food, endless courses of local specialties, includes a spicy interpretation of gefilte fish with hot sauce.

"WHY SHOULDN'T I learn Hebrew?" Khalida Hilm, our Moslem guide, asks the next morning. "It is close to Arabic and easy to learn, and there are so many Israeli tourists." She speaks as if Israel and Morocco already have diplomatic relations.

But she's right: Israelis are everywhere. Some 40,000 visited last year, according to Dris Brittel, our escort from the Moroccan Tourist Office, and that number includes only those who traveled on Israelis passports.

"We had a group from some insurance companies – Migdal and Clal – and they bought carpets," says a salesman in Fez, more bothered by the fact that I wasn't buying than where I was from.

Minister Berdugo is doing all he can to encourage Jewish tourism in general, and Israeli tourism in particular. He greets journalists at his home in Marrakech, a red string on his wrist, a gift from his son who just returned from Israel.

"It's a *segula*, a good luck charm, a string brought from the grave of a *tzaddik* in Israel," he explains.

Berdugo recalls Rabin's visit the day after the White House handshake. "On September 13th, Arafat got what he wanted. On the 14th, Israel got everything it wanted," he says, noting that Rabin was received as a normal head of state.

There is constant travel and business between the two countries, he adds. "Compare this to the cold peace with Egypt."

Moroccans can be called anything but cold.

Imagine our surprise on the last day when our Moslem guide asked us to sing "*Hava Nagila*."

"It is my favorite part of a Jewish wedding," he says.

Unofficial peace has its rewards

THE US ambassador in Rabat is an unexpected booster of Israeli tourism to Morocco and investment there.

"American Jews and Israelis should be delighted and excited over the role that Morocco has taken in the peace process," says Ambassador Marc Ginsberg, who grew up in Israel and is the first Jewish ambassador to an Arab country.

"But it is not enough to be a spectator. Jews need to come and show the Moroccans that there are rewards for promoting peace," he says, sounding more like a Moroccan government official than a Clinton political appointment.

"The more business," he notes, "the more stability, and stability is a vote of confidence for the king's policies."

"GET OUT of the cities of Morocco and see some of the most spectacular landscapes in the world," says Chris Lawrence as we drive through the lush Oureka Valley south of Marrakech.

Lawrence, founder of the Best of Morocco travel services and local tour operator for the American Jewish Congress, adds that "Moroccans don't appreciate their country's wealth of attractions."

Morocco is an ideal tourist location. From the northern seaside resorts, through the imperial cities with their lavish palaces and overflowing *souks*, to the wondrous *Hassan II mosque* in Casablanca, to the Atlas mountains and the mystique of the Sahara, there is always something new to see and do. The hotels are styled in the best *European tradition*.

Other than the pickpockets who frequent crowded tourist attractions, there is no violent crime – unless you count the way people drive.

The AJC organizes three types of first-class tours: an 11-day visit of the imperial cities and major Jewish communities; an eight-day winter escape based in Marrakech; and a two week "Jewish Heritage Expedition" led by a leading sholar-academic to major historical cities.

Tours can be booked through the AJC office in New York 1-800-221-4694 or Congress International Missions, 03-696-1111 in Israel.

Royal Air Maroc and El Al honor each other's tickets on round trip Israel-US flights, making Morocco a convenient stop-over in either direction.

F.B.

Second time around: No funny business as Sano star makes a fresh start

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

AFTER nearly two years of unwedded bliss in their [illegible] in Herzliya Pituah, Sano-star Clara, better known as comedienne **Hannah Laszlo**, 41, and businessman **Benny Bloch**, 46, decided to tie the knot.

Officiating at the lunchtime nuptials last Friday was none less than Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi **Yisrael Meir Lau**. It was the second time around for both the bride and the groom. The couple have four sons between them – she is the mother of two sons by entertainer **Aviv Giladi** – and would like to increase the size of the family to at least seven.

THOUGH HE refused – for "religious reasons" – to travel to the Radio 2 studio last Saturday for a program marking the halfway point of his premiership, Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin** agreed to participate by phone. It was Shas MK and former interior minister **Aryeh Deri**, reportedly with the prompting of Rabbi **Ovadia Yosef**, who apparently had to enlighten Rabin that using the phone on Shabbat is no less a transgression.

Rabin subsequently notified the radio station that he would agree to a recorded interview on Friday, but not a live interview on Saturday.

MISSOURI GOVERNOR **Mel Carnahan**, who met Rabin during a top-level trade mission to Israel, discovered that he and Rabin had a few things in common. Not only are Israeli-ordered F-15 fighter jets being produced in St. Louis, Missouri, but Rabin also disclosed that his father had lived in St. Louis for two years during World War I.

Charles Newman, chairman of the UJA St. Louis Federation Business Development Mission, promised Rabin that when he returned home he would try to locate the building where the premier's father had resided.

WOMEN ARE increasingly moving into leadership roles in Diaspora Jewish communities. One of them is Philadelphian **Susan Weikers-Volchok**, who was recently named national campaign chairwoman of the State of Israel Bonds Organization. She is the first woman to hold this position.

Weikers-Volchok, 49, who recently participated in the world Jewry dialogue initiated by President **Ezer Weizman**, recalled that as a 25-year-old she came to Israel with a Bonds New Leadership mission and was one of 10 women invited to meet Golda Meir in her home.

"She served us and she needed help in the kitchen. I was pleased to help because I wanted to see what her kitchen looked like," said Weikers-Volchok. "I had heard that all the important decisions were made in that kitchen."

IT'S NOT a scoop, but it's certainly a coup: Jerusalem-based journalist **Michele Chabin**, who writes for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, received first prize in the Simon Rockower Award for Jewish Journalism.

Chabin's first-hand account of the evacuation of 350 Jews and non-Jews from war-torn Bosnia by the Joint Distribution Committee was the award-winning story in the category of Foreign Reporting.

Prior to joining JTA, Chabin was entertainment editor of the *Post*, and, before that, she worked for *Cosmopolitan* magazine in her native New York.

REAL-ESTATE agent **Shelly Levine** expected some wisecracks from friends when she told them that she and husband **Charley** had chosen to celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary with a 12-day cruise around the Mediterranean on the infamous Achille Lauro.

Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan has a few things in common with Yitzhak Rabin.

Philadelphian Susan Weikers-Volchok recalls meeting Golda Meir – in Meir's kitchen.

Levine took the quips in her stride – until she boarded the ship and scanned the list of movies to be screened at sea. The first was *Under Siege*, about a terrorist takeover of a naval vessel, and this was followed by *Passenger 57*, an air-piracy flick. Two days later, ostensibly by popular request, there was a screening of *Terror on the Sea*, which is a three-hour re-enactment of the Achille Lauro's ill-fated terrorist saga – filmed on board.

The company's apparent fixation with terrorism was beginning to get to Levine, until she noticed that Burt Lancaster, who played terrorist victim Leon Klinghoffer in *Terror on the Sea*, "had our suite in the movie."

GRAPHIC ARTIST **Josef Bau**, a "Schindler's List" survivor and personal friend of Schindler's until the latter's death in 1973, has used his talent to document the most terrible period in Jewish history.

An exhibition of his drawings will remain open at Beit Wolyn in Givatayim till the end of the summer.

FORMER TEL Aviv mayor **Shlomo Lahat** was the recipient this week of a President's Citation. Lahat received the award from Polish President **Lech Walesa** in recognition of his efforts on behalf of Polish-born Righteous Gentiles living in Israel.

When the news broke some years ago that many Righteous Gentiles were living here in abject poverty, Lahat and the Tel Aviv Municipality set about righting the wrong. The citation was presented at a festive gathering at the Ramada Hotel, which has become the unofficial venue for Polish receptions.

Polish Ambassador **Jan Dowgiallo**, who made the presentation, disclosed that he is about to complete his term. The second Polish ambassador to serve here since the renewal of diplomatic ties, Dowgiallo took over in December 1990.

SCITEX employees took time off from microchips this week to discover another side of one of their office staffers, Bombay-born **Ramona Bachmann**.

At age 15, Bachmann came to study at an agricultural school in Israel, then went into the hotel industry, moved to Denmark, where she lived for 28 years and taught Hebrew, Jewish heritage and kosher cooking, and eventually returned to Israel.

Her international cookbook *Simply Kosher*, originally published in Danish, received rave reviews. The English version, full of anecdotes and original kosher recipes, has just been released by Gefen.

Bachmann treated her Scitex colleagues to a buffet worthy of kings.

TEL AVIV mayor **Ronni Milo** this week hosted a birthday party for one of his constituents. German-born **Mali Danziger**, 105, who came on aliya more than 70 years ago, is believed to be the city's oldest resident.

An intimate of David and Paula Ben-Gurion, Danziger also had close ties to the government. Her brother Pinchas Rosen was the country's first justice minister.

HAIFA MAYOR **Amram Mitzna** and his wife arrived late at the WIZO Canada Neri Bloomfield College fashion show and discovered that their seats had been given away. After **Aliza Mitzna**'s protestations that she was the wife of the mayor fell on deaf ears, the couple took the first seats they could find.

IN HONOR of **Max Froehlich**'s 100th birthday, his son, **David**, last month published a story in the *Post* detailing some aspects of the centenarian's life. As an upshot, Froehlich senior discovered that he had several "lost" relatives, who made contact after reading about him in the paper.

German-born Froehlich, who lived in the US from 1939 to 1966, when he moved to Jerusalem, has 22 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

Among scores of greetings, Froehlich also received a birthday card from **Bill** and **Hillary Clinton**. The fact that David Froehlich is vice-chairman of the Israel branch of Democrats Abroad might have had something to do with it.

"THE JOURNEY MY WIFE WILL NEVER LET ME FORGET"

It was intended to be an unforgettable trip because it was my wife's 40th birthday. Just the two of us and romantic Europe. Our travel agent recommended that we rent a car at a small Italian car rental agency. "It'll cost you $20 less than Avis" he said. He just forgot to mention that this small car rental agency wouldn't allow us to return the car in another country. We discovered this at the Swiss border. It was a trip we will never forget. We had to make a complete u-turn and drive all the way back to Rome to return the car! It cost us a lot more than $20. Believe me, we'll never do business with small car rental agencies again.

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